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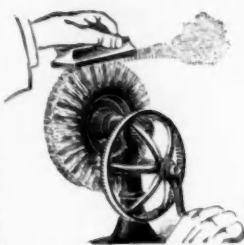
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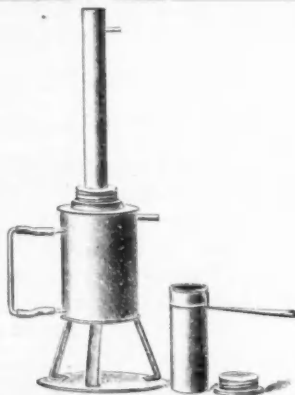
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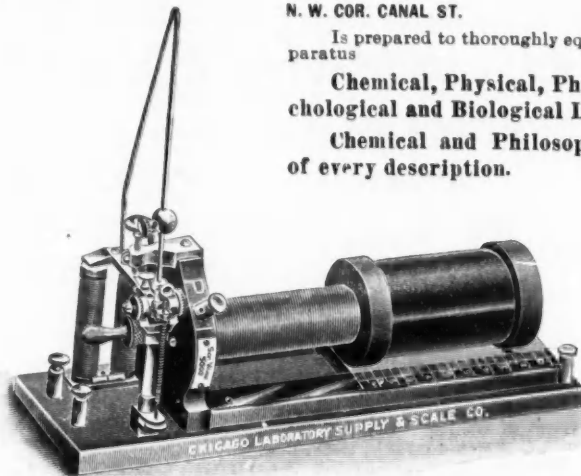
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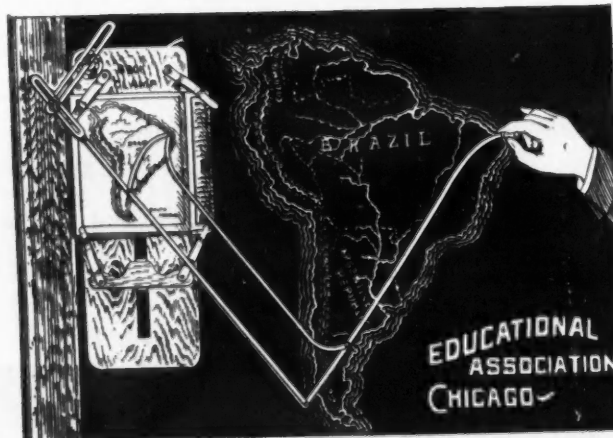
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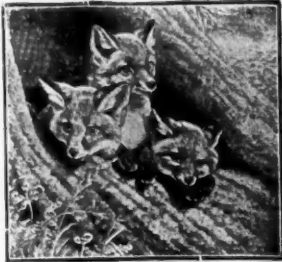
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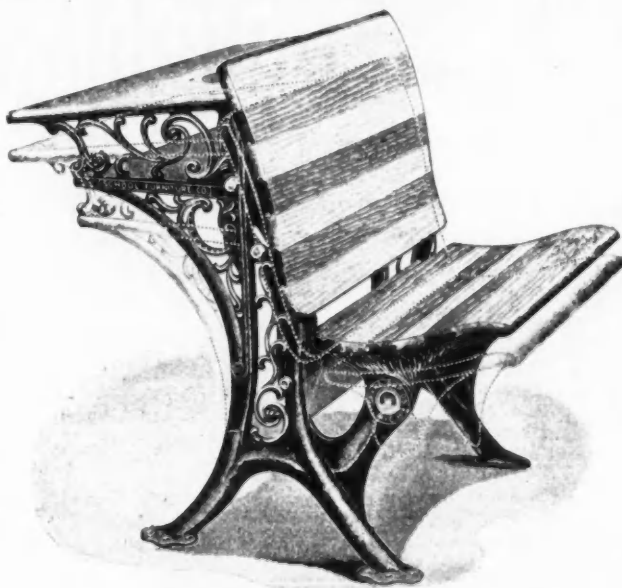


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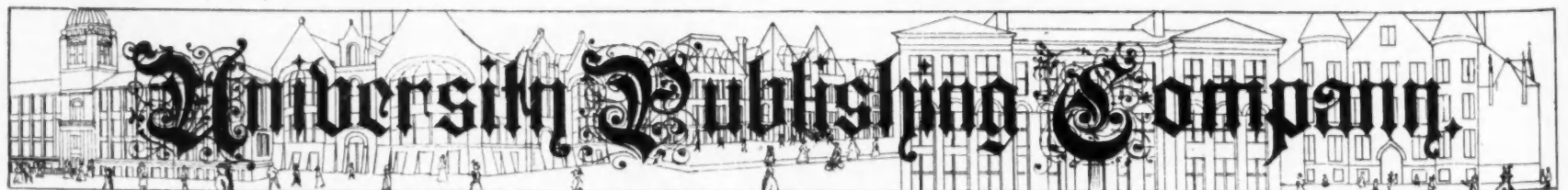
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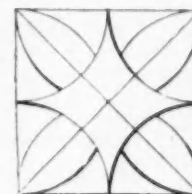
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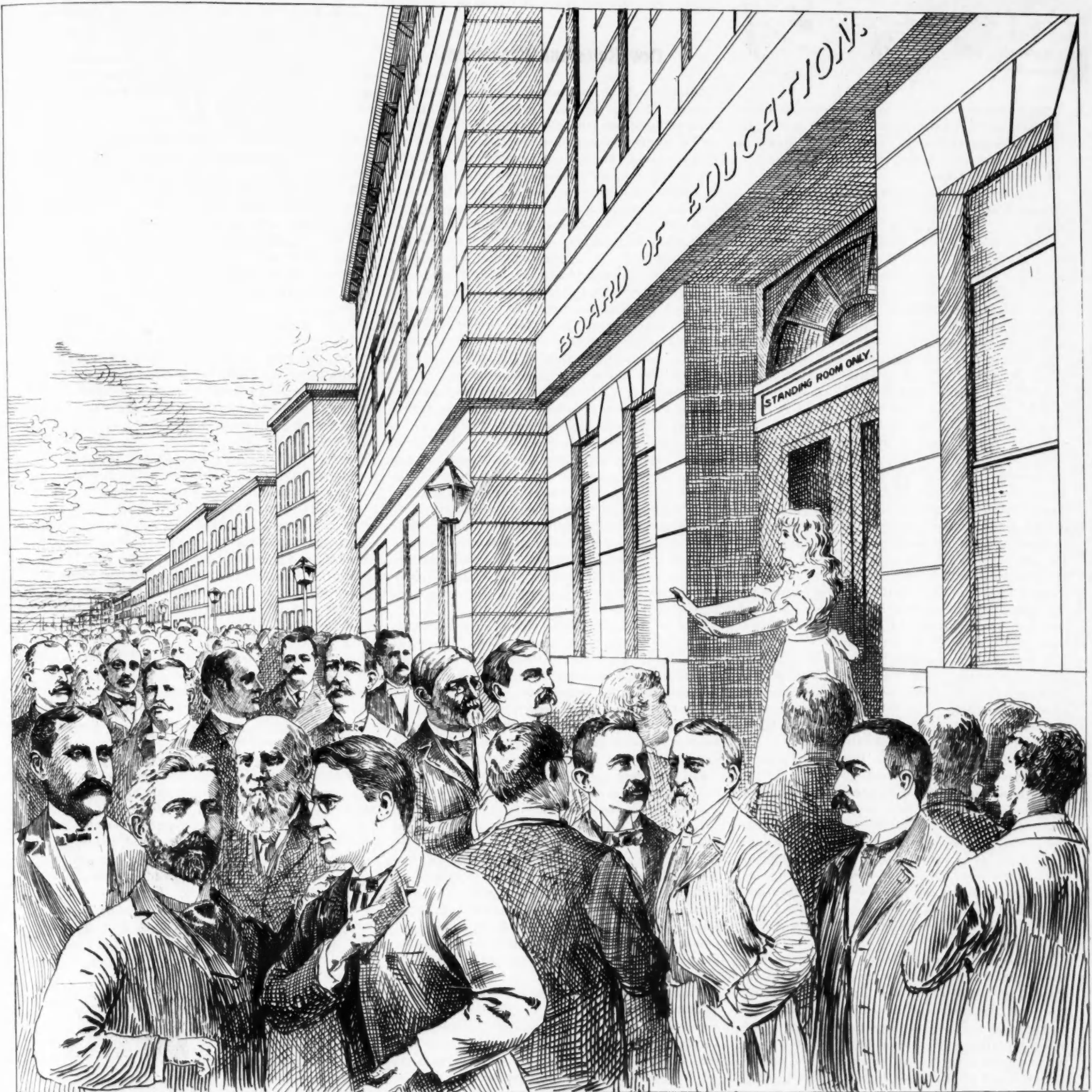


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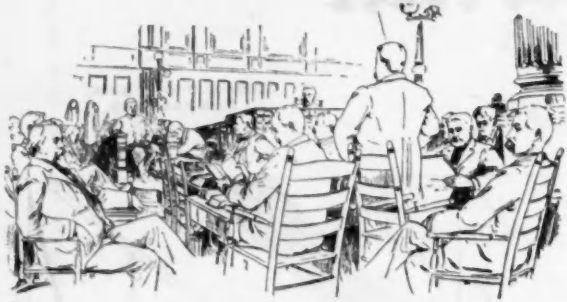
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## School Law.



The corporate existence of an independent school district, which is authorized by statute, and organized under the authority of such statute, *cannot* be inquired into in a collateral proceeding.—City of El Paso v. Ruckman.

A city held elections in 1882 to determine whether or not it would assume control of its schools, as authorized by the laws of 1879. The election resulted in favor of such control, but was irregular. The city began to act as a school district, and its authority was never questioned. In 1883 an election was held, resulting in the levying of a school tax. *Held*, that for the purpose of holding the election and levying the tax, the city was in legal effect a school district.—City of El Paso v. Ruckman, Ind.

A law provides that trustees of two or more adjacent townships, say, on petition, establish a new school district and build a new school house therein at their joint expense; that on the presentation of such petition the trustees shall declare whether such petition be granted, and take such further action as necessary. From their decision appeals are allowed to the county superintendent, whose decision is final. *Held*, that such superintendent has no authority, after granting such a petition on appeal, to order the trustees of two townships interested to erect the building on land purchased for that purpose, by one of the trustees, without the knowledge and consent of the other; since the location, size, kind of building, etc., are matters for the judgment of both trustees, subject to appeal to the superintendent only in case of their disagreement.—Henricks v. State of Indiana.

A contract for repairing a building, exceeding \$200, made by the school trustees of a ward in New York city upon the approval of the superintendent of school buildings, but without the approval of the board of education, or any appropriation for its payment, *is not*, under consolidation, binding upon the board of education.—Van Dolsen v. board of education of City of New York.

A cabinet containing a number of geographical maps so arranged that each map may be conveniently displayed, and that the whole series when not in use, may be inclosed and protected, *is not* a "philosophical or other apparatus for the demonstration" of some branch of education within the meaning of the law, and may therefore be furnished to a school by the board of education.—First National Bank v. board of education of Harrison township, Ross county.

A municipality cannot levy a tax of more than three mills for public school purposes without the consent of a majority of the taxpayers under the law, and the provision in said section that the municipality may collect taxes to erect and repair school buildings and issue bonds for that purpose in the manner provided in the chapter on municipalities *is not* additional to the power to issue bonds for that purpose as provided.—Village of Boguchitto v. Lewis, Miss.

Where school directors have bought a library, paying for it out of school funds for that year, *they cannot*, for the purpose of restoring the money to the school fund, levy the special tax permitted by law to be levied for the purpose of purchasing or keeping up a library.—Lueder v. Caffrey, Pa.

Albany, N. Y. Charles R. Skinner, superintendent of public instruction, has expressed an opinion

relative to bonds, orders and contracts in school matters. He says he considers all drafts and orders drawn by boards of trustees of school districts, contracts for employment of teachers, bonds of collectors, treasurers and other school officers, exempt from taxation. Boards of education and trustees of common school districts are under the school law of "bodies corporate." Under the same law, school districts are municipal corporations exempt from the provisions of the stamp act.

## New Rules and Regulations.

Brooklyn, N. Y. A rule of the board reads as follows: No teacher shall engage in any occupation that will interfere with the duties required of him or her by these regulations; nor shall a teacher give private lessons for pay in any public school building at any time; and should a female teacher marry, her place shall thereupon become vacant; but marriage shall not operate as a bar to her reappointment, should it be deemed to the interest of the school to retain the services of the said teacher.

Albany, N. Y. An amendment to the rules reads as follows: No pupil shall be allowed to discontinue a study except on a certificate of a physician showing physical disability or for some specific reason satisfactory to the superintendent of schools.

Sedalia, Mo. The board has made it obligatory for each teacher, regardless of grade or pay, to be the possessor of a first grade certificate.

Brooklyn, N. Y. An established rule of the board of education reads as follows: The schools shall be opened in the morning precisely at the hour appointed by the board; and it shall be the duty of all the teachers to be in the class-rooms at least fifteen minutes previously, prepared to receive the pupils and to preserve good order. A portion of the Holy Scriptures shall be read aloud daily without note or comment, in the presence of every class.

Fond du Lac, Wis. Under the rules and regulations of the board of education it becomes the duty of the superintendent of schools to make recommendations to the board regarding the needs of the schools for the coming year.

Stevens Point, Wis. The following is an established rule of the board of education: All pupils absenting themselves from any regular examination of their school without rendering a satisfactory excuse, shall be suspended from the school, and the teacher shall immediately report every such case to the parent of the pupil, and also to the superintendent for his action thereon. Such absence from examinations, not satisfactorily excused, shall be taken as evidence that the pupil has fallen behind the rank of his or her class, and upon re-admission may be sent to the class below.

Lebanon, O. A rule reads as follows: Profanity, obscenity, and the use of tobacco by pupils while under school authority, are strictly forbidden. Pupils shall be quiet and respectful on the streets and about the school premises. They shall not mar nor deface nor injure desks, furniture, walls and ceiling, buildings, or any other property whatsoever. Any damage done in violation of this rule shall be repaired at the expense of the pupil doing said damage.

Niles, O. During the coming year no formal examinations are to be held below the high school, except a final examination for high school entrance. In place of the examination, daily grades and written tests given at irregular and unexpected times will be substituted. Standing will be made a matter of record every twelve weeks. Individual promotions may be made at any time and demotions will take place whenever it is found that the pupil will be benefited by being put into a lower grade.

Warrensburg, Mo. The teachers are required to open and take charge of their respective school rooms twenty minutes before the time prescribed for opening the school. Teachers failing to do so must report themselves tardy in their monthly report, stating dates and time lost.

## AMONG BOARDS OF EDUCATION.

Lock Haven, Pa. The board enacted a rule by which the engagement in any other occupation during the time they are employed by this board of any teacher, is injurious to their usefulness, and persistence in the same shall be deemed a sufficient cause for dismissal.

Davenport, Ia. The school board has established a sanitary committee, composed of two physicians, whose duty it is to be on the alert for nuisances, report them and take other steps for their abatement.

Lock Haven, Pa. The board has decided that hereafter all holidays designated by law shall be observed without special action being taken by the board.

Stevens Point, Wis. The board of education, being fully persuaded of the great benefit to schools derived from the meeting of teachers for the mutual exchange of views on teaching, and for maintaining their own standard of knowledge, have by resolution requested attendance at such meetings, and expect them to attend the same.

Niles, O. President T. O. Clingan, of the board of education in his annual report, says: The future welfare and prosperity of our nation depend in a great measure upon the work done in our public schools, and we should deem it a privilege of the highest importance to elevate and perfect our school work. Right in this line our aim should be to give the scholars the best practical education in our power—that which will enable them to perform their duties in life and compete with their fellow men and women with the least possible disadvantage from an educational standpoint.

Greater New York. Mayor Van Wyck wants the school board abolished and a salaried commission appointed to take control of the public schools.

Kansas City, Mo. The board is considering the setting apart one day in the school year to be known as a "Patron's Day" when the schools would be dismissed, and the time occupied by literary entertainments and social gatherings in which the patrons of the schools would join with the teachers.

Lynchburg, Md. The board has elected white teachers for the colored high school. The action may cause trouble.

Scranton, Pa. Judge H. M. Edwards has decided that there is nothing in the laws of Pennsylvania to prevent the reading of the Bible in the public schools. He says: "The reading of the Bible in the public schools may be allowed and even commended from a standpoint which does not involve the question of sectarian instruction nor the rights of conscience. It is conceded by men of all creeds that the Bible teaches the highest morality, apart from religious instruction. It must be admitted that sound morality is one of the foundations of good character. An education which does not involve the inculcation of moral principles is incomplete. And why cannot the common precepts of morality be taught by the reading of the Bible better than in any other way. Furthermore, there is much in the Bible which cannot justly be characterized as sectarian. There can be no valid objection to the use of such matter in the secular instruction of the pupils. Much of it has great historical and literary value which

may be utilized without violating the constitutional prohibition. It may also be used to inculcate good morals—that is, our duties to each other—which may and ought to be inculcated by the district schools. No more complete code of morals exists than is contained in the New Testament, which reaffirms and emphasizes the moral obligations.



EMMA E. BOWER.  
Member Board of Education,  
Ann Arbor, Mich.



## Should Local Applicants be Given Preference as Teachers?

Read Before the Missouri State Association of School Boards, at Carthage, Mo.

By L. E. WHITNEY, M. D., Carthage, Mo.

With each returning season for the selection of teachers the question which serves as the subject of this paper presents itself, and finds in almost every school board supporters of either side armed with arguments which they regard as well nigh invincible. That this is true, and that intelligent boards of education in all parts of the land are by their action putting themselves on record as the advocates of either the affirmative or the negative, is evident in itself that there is in this question room for conscientious difference of opinion.

Those favoring the exercise of preference for teachers who are local residents, remind us that in the teaching force of almost every school of any considerable dimensions, many of the most faithful, competent and valuable instructors are found among those whose only Alma Mater is the institution in which they are now employed. And why should not this be true, they argue, for is not the school in which they were educated one of which to be justly proud because of its excellent work? Is it not manned with talent the equal of any to be found, supplied with the most recent and approved apparatus, and conducted according to thoroughly advanced methods? Are not the students of that school the sons and daughters of intelligent parents, and as bright, energetic and promising as those to be found elsewhere? Why should not such students from such an institution be the equal of those to be found anywhere, and if they are so, why look further for material for teachers?

With the above granted, would it not, it is asked, be a just recognition of the merits of the school to show appreciation of, and confidence in the work it is doing, by employing, as opportunity offers, her graduates as teachers? Would not such recognition react to the benefit of the school? The province of the board being to foster and sustain the school placed under their care, such recognition as will encourage and favorably advertise it is their recognized duty.

It is further argued by those taking the affirmative, that local teachers are the most successful for the reason that one placed in a responsible position at home under the immediate observation of his friends and neighbors, whom he realizes would be the first to recognize and the last to forget a failure, has an incentive to exercise his very best efforts, which is necessary to insure success and which is unfelt by one who comes a stranger, whose home and friends are so far distant that little beyond what he himself reported would ever be known by them of his work.

Also, that boards have better facilities for acquainting themselves with the character and moral standing of local applicants, and consequently incur less risk of choosing those who, upon a closer knowledge, may prove themselves to be immoral, vicious or otherwise undesirable. For what board has not been favorably impressed with the apparently extraordinary recommendations of some stranger applicant, only to find, when too late, that he possessed a side not pictured in his credentials, and has been forced to acknowledge that had his faulty habits or objectionable idiosyncrasies been known, his application would not have been given a moment's consideration.

It is also claimed as worthy of being taken into account that local teachers are largely the relatives and friends of the tax-payers whose money is expended in the support of the local schools. Should they be expected to support an institution which

when it has favors within its gift bestows them elsewhere?

Again, all are naturally and properly more or less selfish. The sons and daughters of our immediate vicinity are in a measure members of our own households, and from our earliest instincts to the present moment we have been led to prefer one another. What man would take into his personal employ a stranger and consign his own son, equally worthy and well qualified for the work, to seek like employment elsewhere?

These and many others and perhaps better arguments appeal to the sentiments of the members of school boards in behalf of the local teachers, and together with the fact that the irksome task of making selections seems simplified in the ratio in which the number of applicants is reduced, as is also the area of territory in which they reside, in conjunction with the belief that the personal popularity of each member is enhanced according to the degree in which he bestows favors, have led too many to recognize in the more easy and popular course the line of his duty.

But there is a broader and more practical view of this matter that can be had for the simple acceptance of it. Though duty with a school director, as with that of most other lines of labor, does not lie in the path smoothest to tread. The office of school director carries with it the implied promise that self and friends, except as they constitute a part of the whole, shall be set aside and the best interests of the district alone shall be considered, and that, too, regardless of the cost in either labor or personal popularity. He who is not willing to make this sacrifice in the interest of the noble work placed in his hands to promote, should be true enough to his fellow-man to persistently refuse the position. Sweet as it may be to bestow favors upon our friends, it should be remembered that school boards are not intended to be patronage distributing agencies. The duty of the school board is simply to provide the district with the best school possible for the amount of money placed at their disposal, and in order to do this they must employ the best teachers available, and it is not enough that they be the best in the immediate vicinity, or the most promising graduates of the local school, but the best to be found anywhere in the market.

In domestic affairs we visit the market and supply our wants with the best that our purse can afford, regardless of whether it is of home or foreign production. Simply a parallel duty is his to whom is intrusted the responsibility of providing his own and his neighbor's children with public school advantages. The familiar maxim, "get the best," is nowhere wiser or more practical than when applied to the subject in question, and it covers the case entirely, yet, when closely and conscientiously following its injunction many local teachers will and should be selected,—not, however, because of their being such, but because being as well qualified as any places them on a par with other applicants, when the advantages to be realized from having a fair per cent. of the force composed of local teachers, of which there are unquestionably many, tips the scale in their favor.

The common custom of giving local applicants even such preference as that of having their applicants considered first, results in very many instances, in the overlooking of vastly superior ones from abroad. It does not necessarily follow, nor should

this be in any way understood as suggesting, that teachers from abroad are in themselves superior, or those from home in the smallest degree inferior, but the principle which is universally recognized in business, that the larger the market the better will be the opportunity for securing just what is needed, is as well adapted to the business of selecting teachers as to any others, and when one remembers that he has the world for his market, and that there is never a time when there are not bargains to be had in the person of teachers of superior qualification from somewhere, who for one reason or another are available, and that a little judicious effort is all that is required to find them, there is little excuse for ignoring the opportunity or of employing an inferior one from nearer home.

It should be constantly borne in mind that neither education nor qualification as a teacher consists simply in what is learned from books, or within the confines of any single educational institution. The world is the school best calculated to impart the broadest and most diversified scholarship, and the educational institution, be it the smallest district or the largest city school, which would bestow the most practical, extensive and liberal learning is not the one which in whole or in greater part by the continuous use of local teachers, even though they are good ones, reflects in one unceasing round the ideas of a single community, but rather that one, which by drawing its instructors from diverse localities and various institutions is able by the aggregation of their different ideas, methods and customs to present to the mind of its students the most comprehensive conception of this larger school in which they are to be life students.

True, to do so requires the exercise of untiring effort, unflagging alertness, and unfailing interest in the cause of education, but the responsible position of instructor and architect of the future lives, character and fortunes of our children, is sufficiently important to stimulate a lasting search for the best material for the same, whether it is to be secured within the territorial limits of our own neighborhood or the distant boundaries of some remote country.

### NIGHT SCHOOLS.

Flint, Mich. Night school is held four nights a week and the term is four months. The studies are confined to grammar, spelling, geography, history, penmanship, and bookkeeping. Pupils under fourteen years are not allowed to attend.

Stockton, Cal. The board has ordered electric lights put in the building in which drawing is taught to night classes.

Quincy, Ill. The evening schools have been opened. Sessions are held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings from seven to nine o'clock. The studies taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, and bookkeeping. Pupils under sixteen years are not eligible for enrollment.

Toledo, O. The board has under consideration a communication signed by 18 Hungarian young men asking the use of a school. Their motive is to become versed in the English language and perfect themselves in an educational way.

Milwaukee. The board of school directors passed a resolution authorizing the superintendent and the director of each ward to permit the use of rooms in public school buildings for the establishment of private evening schools in such buildings, under such regulations and restrictions as may be determined upon by the superintendent and the directors of the wards wherein such schools are located; provided, that the cost of gas consumed for the purpose and the expense for janitor service be borne by the teacher, or teachers, in charge of such schools; provided further, that the privilege extended by the terms of this resolution shall be given to teachers of the public schools only, preference being given to principals of schools regularly in charge of such buildings.

# FOR BUSY SUPERINTENDENTS



Norwich, N. Y. Supt. E. W. Griffith in his annual report says: The children in homes which are frequently visited by persons of culture and refinement gradually acquire habits of thinking, feeling and acting which are conducive in a high degree to the formation of desirable character and preparation for citizenship. Reasoning by analogy we would conclude that schools which are frequently visited will receive helpful influences for the intellectual and moral training of their members. Children in the home like to appear well in the presence of company and children in the school share, in a broad sense, in this same desire. It is fair to presume that parents are aware of these facts. They ought to visit the schools frequently if for no other reason than because of the effect their visits will produce upon teachers and pupils. Interest shown by patrons in the work of teachers and pupils and kindly words of encouragement spoken in appreciation of their efforts naturally lead teachers and pupils to desire to do still better in the future.

Stevens Point, Wis. Under the board of education rules it is the duty of the superintendent to examine all persons offering themselves as candidates for teachers, in regard to moral character, learning, and ability to teach.

Chicago, Ill. Supt. E. Benjamin Andrews maintains that unless a child is supplied with properly cooked and nutritious food he has not the capacity for mastering his studies. There is interference with the progress of a pupil in school and with his physical development on account of unwholesome food. He contemplates suggesting a plan to the board of education for introducing a luncheon in the schools first with a nominal charge for the luncheon and eventually have the board supply the food free of charge.

A. S. Downing, of the State Educational Department, New York, has been appointed principal of the New York City Training School. Salary, \$5,000.

Quincy, Ill. Superintendent Seehorn has recommended to the board of education that he and each school principal be made a member of the committee on text books, and that no book be recommended for use in the schools that has not been considered for at least two months by the committee.

Greeley, Col. Dr. Z. X. Snyder, president of the State Normal school here, says: "The official life of a school ma'am in Colorado averages four years. Matrimony makes 500 vacancies in the state annually.

Allentown, Pa. The superintendent has recommended that recess be abolished in the high school.



HENRY WHITFIELD,  
Newly appointed State  
Supt. of Mississippi.

Mississippi's new state superintendent is Professor Henry Whitfield, of Steen's Creek, Rankin County. He succeeds A. A. Kincannon.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Schaeffer, of Pennsylvania, in view of the increase in some of the districts, has requested school directors to make provision for a longer school term, which he believes should not be less than seven months in any district. He

has also warned the directors against useless extravagance in the purchase of maps, globes, mathematical blocks, etc.

St. Louis. There is a proposition on foot to increase school officials' salaries. Superintendent Soldan now receives \$4,500.

Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, superintendent of the Chicago schools, says: "The value of the city public schools in promoting a deep and true spirit of democracy, is immeasurable. If you wish to put it into figures write one and add as many ciphers as you please. It cannot be overstated. To me this is perhaps the most attractive feature of the work which I have undertaken. I am unable to get away from its drawing power. It is fundamental American. Its power for good defies computation.

Joplin, Mo. Superintendent J. D. Elliff in his annual report recommends that manual training be added to the course of study, and that a specialist be employed to take charge of the work. That cabinets be supplied to all schools and that a collection of specimens, botanical, biological and geographical be encouraged.

In addition to these recommendations he suggests the following to the board of education as being worthy of serious consideration: 1 The beautifying of school lots. 2 The teaching of sewing and cook-in in the schools. 3 Vacation schools. 4 Filtered water at all schools. 5 A gymnasium at the high school. 6 The free text book system.

Albany, N. Y. Superintendent Cole says that the Albany teachers are well posted on current events. They read the papers and are conversant with everything of general interest that happens.

Stevens Point, Wis. Superintendent H. A. Simonds gives the following reasons for examining the ears and eyes of pupils: 1. To find out if pupils are generally defective in either sense or both, and, if so, whether the defect increases with the age of the pupil. 2. By knowing a pupil to be defective the teacher can so adjust the conditions of school life to that pupil that he will suffer as little as possible from such defect. 3. By advising parents of the child's condition in these particulars, they would be able perhaps to help the child overcome his affliction.

Chicago, Ill. "If I were to make a plan for the government of a city's public school system," said Supt. E. Benjamin Andrews recently, "It would be a plan for extremely centralized power. I would have a head to that system that could be hit and knocked off whenever it failed to work right. I would hold somebody responsible for the conduct of school affairs. When something got wrong with the machinery, when dead timber needed to be thrown out, I should expect this head to attend to it. The people ought to know where to hit whenever there is mismanagement in municipal affairs, school affairs, or matters of state. It is now held theoretically and practically the world over that heads of systems should be given great power so that they can be held strictly to account by the people they serve.

Chicago, Ill. Supt. E. Benjamin Andrews announces a policy against any discrimination in the selection of teachers on account of sex.

## SPANISH IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Brooklyn, N. Y. The board has voted to introduce Spanish in the high school.

Detroit, Mich. President Henderson, of the school board, does not want Spanish taught in the commercial course in the high school. He says that if Porto Rico and other Spanish islands are

taken and colonized by us, it will only be a few years before the English language is spoken entirely in the colonies. He says it would be better to teach Norwegian than Spanish.

Newark, N. J. Supt. Gilbert favors the introduction of Spanish into the high school course.

New York City. President Randolph Guggenheimer of the council, and an ex-member of the school board, says: "In my opinion the study of Spanish is not desirable. It is a fatal mistake to overburden children with too wide a range of study. It leads to a neglect of some important subject. An opportunity is afforded to the older children to study languages in the evening high schools. I am not in favor of adding the study of Spanish to the curriculum of the public schools."

## Superintendents' Elections.

Cambridge, O., Chas. L. Kronebaugh, \$1,350. Harriman, Tenn., J. T. Mallicoate. Quincy, Ill., A. A. Seehorn. Grand Rapids, Mich., Fred H. Hathaway. Deshler, O., Mr. Sanders. Albion, Mich., W. J. McKone. Ottumwa, Ia., A. W. Stuart.

## Among State Superintendents.

State Supt. A. A. Kincannon, of Mississippi, has resigned to accept the presidency of the Industrial Institute and College, at Columbus, Miss. His salary as State Superintendent was \$2,000. He will get \$3,000 in his new position.

North Dakota. J. G. Holland, who is a candidate for re-election as state superintendent, is being opposed by the W. C. T. U.

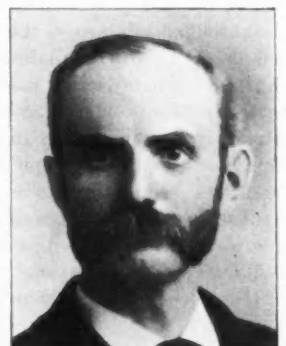
Chicago. Superintendent Andrews recently requested a seat and vote at school board meetings. He says: "With all respect, I believe that the business of the board would be much expedited on many matters by allowing the superintendent to make explanations and suggestions in board meetings." The request was denied.

Topeka, Kan. State superintendent Stryker, is working to secure the abolishment of the study of Latin as a necessity for admission to the state university; also as a requirement in the high schools. He says the time spent in studying Latin is thrown away.

Lansing, Mich. State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Hammond, in his annual report recommends the abolition of the Michigan Pupils' Reading Circle and the establishment of a traveling library.

St. Joseph, Mo. W. T. Carrington is the Democratic nominee for state superintendent of public schools, and John R. Kirk is the Republican candidate. Both were graduated from the Kirksville State Normal about the same time, and are not far from the same age. Professor Kirk has served nearly four years as state superintendent of public schools, and Professor Carrington served four years as assistant state superintendent under William E. Coleman.

Major John W. Paulett, assistant superintendent of public instruction, of Tennessee, is acknowledged to be better versed in the history of education in that state than any other man. The walls of the office of the state superintendent of public instruction are adorned with the portraits of those who have acted in that important official capacity from the establishment of the office to the present time. Major Paulett being recently visited, related the history of all the former state superintendents beginning with the first incumbent of the office. He told about the work accomplished by each one and the methods which they had pursued. The interview which was published in the press is not only interesting but important.



PROF. W. H. SCHULZ,  
Dem. Can. for State Supt. of Pub.  
Inst., Spring Green, Wis.



# Text-Book News.

Akron, O. The free text-book system is to be introduced in all grades below the high school.

## Arguments for free text-books:

1. There are twenty-four states using free text-books in some form, and no place using them has ever returned to the old plan.
2. The cost is greatly reduced.
3. All pupils are supplied with books and necessary material the first morning of school.
4. The attendance is greatly increased.
5. By the experience of schools using free texts, the books are shown to last longer and to be kept in better condition, and they are worn out in school and do not rust out at home on the shelf.
6. No pupil is hindered from buying his own books if he wishes to own them.
7. Fresh and modern books may be secured.
8. Better gradation and classification, since all pupils would have the same text.
9. It prolongs the school life of many pupils, for the increased price of high school books often hinder their attendance.
10. It banishes the obnoxious distinctions between those that can and those that cannot afford to buy their own books, which often arises under the law providing free texts for indigent children.
11. Pupils transferred from one grade to another during the year would not be obliged to buy new books.
12. Contagious diseases are less apt to be carried into school, for the free texts would be disinfected and kept clean.

The following Michigan cities recently voted against free text-books: Schoolcraft, Ithaca, Saline, Inlay City, Monroe, Springwells, Wyandotte, Dowagiac, Lansing, Escanaba, Niles, Manistee, Eaton and Milan.

The following Michigan cities recently voted to introduce the free text-book system: Sault Ste Marie, Marquette and Hastings.

Cincinnati, O. After sixty years' service, McGuffey's readers have been put out of the public schools.

Malden, Mass. Fifty sets of Chandler's Practical Shorthand, in two volumes, have been purchased for the high school.

West Finley, Pa. The school board has decided to purchase a number of Morris' histories to be used as a substitute for the fifth reader by way of supplementary work. Said histories will contain events of the late war to August 1.

Ogden, Utah. The board has ordered Hillman Brough's work, "Irrigation in Utah" placed in the school library.

Muscataine, Ia. At a recent board meeting, Mr. Merriman, president of the Western Publishing House, addressed the board on the subject of introducing the Pollard reading system. The board decided to introduce the system.

West Hoboken, N. J. The board has decided to furnish each teacher with a copy of Hill's business and social forms.

The University Publishing company makes the following announcements: During the past summer they have issued a number of new books, among which are the "School Edition of the Gildersleeve-Lodge Latin Grammar; also in the Gildersleeve-Lodge Latin Series, a first Latin Book by Prof Charles W. Bain; new edition of the Clarendon Dictionary; History of Georgia, by Lawton B. Evans, superintendent of schools, Augusta, Ga., and the 1898 edition of Maury's Manual of Geography.



F. S. BOULWARE,  
Member Board of Education,  
Ft. Worth, Tex.

The style of binding of Holmes' Readers has been changed from boards to full cloth. The prices of the books remain the same as formerly, with the exception of the first reader, which has been enlarged to 110 pages and the price of it increased from fifteen to eighteen cents. The first reader will also be furnished in the old style, board binding, seventy pages, at the former price, fifteen cents. In their neat cloth binding, this popular series of Natural Science Readers should win many new friends.

This company has also acquired, by purchase, the Simplified Series of Penmanship, by Prof. C. P. Zaner, of Columbus, Ohio, G. W. Ware, supervisor of penmanship, Dallas, Tex., and A. C. Webb, supervisor of penmanship, Nashville, Tenn. By the purchase of this series of penmanship, this company acquires the right to furnish the state of Texas with copy books, as well as a number of large cities in the West where the series is already in use.

In the recent adoption of books by the state board of education of Virginia, Maury's Geographies, Venable's Arithmetic and Jones' School History of the United States were put on the list of books for use in the common schools in the state of Virginia. On the high school list were put the following books: Hansell's Higher History of the United States, Venable's Easy and High School Algebras, Venable's Geometry and Gildersleeve's Latin Grammar, school edition. Of the counties in the state which up to September 20th have adopted books for the coming four years, seventy-four counties have adopted Maury's Geographies, fifty four have adopted Venable's Arithmetics, and forty have adopted Jones' History.

The publications of this company are handled in Chicago by Mr. A. Flanagan, 267 Wabash Ave., to whom orders from the central states should be sent.

Richmond, Va. The Grand Camp of Confederate Veterans of Virginia is having a time settling the question as to what history of the United States shall be used in the schools. It condemned Fiske's history and the state board of education for putting it on the list, and that of Cooper, Estill and Lemon. The report favors the histories by Mrs. Susan P. Lee and the Rev. Dr. William J. Jones. The report especially criticises the Cooper history for saying: "The men of the North were fighting to maintain the best government God ever gave to man." The report says that in matters relating to the war the following should be the line upon which Southern children should be instructed: "They should be taught that, overcome by physical power, the Confederate soldier laid down his arms at the end of the war, with a pledge of his honor that he abandoned the cause of secession for all time; that the Confederate soldier has lived up to that pledge ever since the war with perfect faith and sincerity, and that all descendants of Confederate soldiers must live up to it with the same faith and sincerity for all time. They are to be taught that the United States is their common country, whose dignity, safety and honor they must gladly guard and defend with the last drop of their blood. They are to be taught that nothing is plainer to him who understands the Constitution of the United States and the history of its formation than that the states had reserved the right to secede, and that their fathers were not rebels and traitors in seceding from the Union. The United States is our country for the future; all question of secession is ended and put aside forever, and nowhere is the United States government held in greater love and regard than in the Southern States."

Irish's "Orthography and Orthoepey" has recently been adopted for use in the high schools of Zanesfield, O.; Meadville, Mo.; also in Springfield Township, Lucas Co., O.; Hernando Co., Florida; department of Pedagogy, Heidelberg University, Tiffin, O.; and in many other places.

## Text-Book Adoptions.

Irish's "American and British Authors" has recently been adopted for use in the high schools of Scio, O.; Scottville, Ill.; Fletcher, O.; Crab Orchard, Ill.; Bienville, La.; Stienmann Institute, Dixon, Ill.; also in the high schools of Shauck's, Granville, Perrysville, Warrensburg, and Mount Pisgah, O.

La Crosse, Wis. Ellis system of bookkeeping, Barnes' elementary botany and Barnes' advanced botany.

Richmond, Va. Henrico county has adopted Johnson's primer, B. F. Johnson Publishing Company, Richmond; Merrill's speller, Maynard Merrill & Co., New York; stepping stones to literature series of readers, Silver, Burdette & Co., Boston; White's series of arithmetics, American Book Company, New York; Hyde's series of grammars, D. C. Heath & Co., Boston; Maury's series of geographies, University Publishing Company, New York; Magill's stories of Virginia history; Magill's history of Virginia, J. P. Bell Company, Lynchburg; Smith's slant copybooks, B. F. Johnson & Co., Richmond; Webster's dictionaries, American Book Company, New York.

Hokendouqua, Pa. Baldwin's readers and the Natural geographies.

New Haven, Conn. Daniels' new Latin composition, Comstock's Virgil and Butler's fifth reader.

Macon, Ga. The trustees of Bibb county adopted the Roundbush vertical writing system.

Detroit, Mich. Merrill vertical writing system.

Syracuse, N. Y. Barnes' vertical system of writing.

Racine, Wis. Bennett's Latin grammar and Lowe & Ewing's Caesar.

Cranston, Ry. Frye's complete geography.

Louisville, Ky. The American system of vertical writing.

Rensselaer, N. Y. The American Music System.

Berea, O. Natural geographies, Cobor and Daniell's Introductory Latin book and gradatina, Carhart & Chutes' Physics.

Phoenix, Ariz. White's arithmetic and Appleton's revised geography.

Stockton, Pa. Pollard system of reading.

Alton, Ill. Farr's physical geography, Master's United States history and the Natural geographies.

Saginaw, Mich. Das Deutsche Buch fuer Anfenger.

Mirror, O. Scudder's new school history.

Kearney, N. J. Maury's geography, Holmes' reader, Thompson's arithmetic and Merrill's copy book.

Findlay, O. Clark's rhetoric.

Willimantic, Conn. The rational spelling book, Werner arithmetic, Cyr's children's reader, first lessons in grammar and elements of composition and grammar by Southworth and Goddard, Scudder's history of the United States and Montgomery's leading facts of American history.

Syracuse, N. Y. Scott & Denning's rhetoric.

Millereck, Pa. Hyde's language lessons in English.

Los Angeles, Cal. Nichol's outlines of physics, Tarr's physical geography, Williams' chemistry, Allen & Greenough's new Caesar, Dodge & Tutill's Latin prose composition, Clark's Eutropi Historia Romani.

## THE STUDY OF SPANISH.

In anticipation of a large demand for books for students of Spanish, Messrs. Laird & Lee have published a remarkable vest pocket volume, entitled "The Practical Spanish Instructor," intended for the use of schools, language clubs, and private classes, as well as for the busy man or woman.

The method adopted for the arrangement of the varied contents of the book is original and unique, and, at the same time, simple, because based on common sense.

The system of teaching the Castilian pronunciation is superior to anything we have seen. Any one who can read, should be able to acquire a correct pronunciation without much effort. There is a charming absence of grammar rules, so repelling at the beginning of a study of a language, and, instead, we are introduced to the living language of every day. The extensive vocabulary is classified so that you find the salt and pepper and the mustard all together, on the same page, and need not look in five different places for the names of five parts of dress. The verbs in common use are grouped together and followed by a drill in the use of their forms (conjugation) in the shape of conversation. This does away with all rules about tense and mood that for nine persons out of ten mark the inglorious end of study. Next follows a carefully-selected collection of phrases needed in ordinary conversation and covering the ground fully.

A most valuable part of the book consists of the lists of names of men and places noted in the late war, and of the commercially important cities of Mexico, Central and South America, with the pronunciation marked.

From the above, it is evident that the claim of originality is well sustained. No vest pocket volume has ever attempted and achieved so much as this. It is a worthy counterpart of Laird & Lee's Salva-Webster Spanish-English and English-Spanish dictionary, the compactness and reliability of which made it the great favorite with our army and navy officers and men, and with the officials of our government.

# What Is The Best Plan

## FOR ORGANIZING A SCHOOL BOARD? THE NECESSARY OFFICERS— THE PROPER COMMITTEES—DUTIES.

By PAUL F. COSTE,  
President Board of Education, St. Louis, Mo.

The board of education of the City of St. Louis has been in office, by virtue of a special election, held in pursuance of the provisions of a recently enacted law, only since May 31, 1897. I believe I am correct in stating that to all of our number, save one, Prof. C. M. Woodward, well known as an educator, the duties of a school director were entirely new when the present board was organized, a little over a year ago. It may be assumed from the general character of the subject assigned to me, that I undertake to speak from more than ordinary experience in management of public



PAUL F. COSTE,  
President Board of Education, St. Louis, Mo.

schools. This is not the case. Since I desire to offer whatever remarks I may deem worthy your consideration, with modesty, in keeping with the brevity of my experience, I deem it proper to say at once, that I have had no *varied* practical experience with the general plans of organizing school boards. I must speak chiefly from my experiences under the plan, which has been followed in St. Louis, in conformity with the law approved in the early part of the year 1897. This law, however, was the outgrowth of a strong popular dissatisfaction with the method of conducting school affairs in St. Louis under previous legislation and organizations effected thereunder. As was to be expected, therefore, this new law, designed to cure the evils of the old, embodied a radically different plan and breathed an entirely different spirit. For example, among other things included in the oath of office, which the new law prescribed for members of the board, is the following:

"And that he will not be influenced, during his term of office, by any consideration, except that of merit and fitness in the appointment of officers and the engagement of employees." In this sentence alone, will be recognized at once the intent of the legislators, to exclude from the selection of employees the element of political or other preference or prejudice. This interpretation of the intent of the law was applied at once in the framing of a non-partisan citizens' ticket for the school board. While, in recognition of the comparative strength of the principal parties, eight republicans and four democrats were selected for such ticket, the candidates were invariably, men of whom it was known that they would, notwithstanding their personal party affiliations, not allow political preference to influence them in their acts as school directors.

This non-partisan ticket was elected and the twelve successful candidates have constituted our board of education since May 31, 1897. Our citizens have shown much interest in the proceedings of this new board under the new law and the general opinion seems to be that the new system is an improvement. In taking charge of school affairs, practically in mid-year, the new board found a large amount of unfinished business left over from its predecessor. This fact alone made it necessary for the present board to familiarize itself with the methods and rules of procedure of the former board. Not this alone, however, gave the present board occasion to institute comparisons. An extensive set of rules was found in use for the government of the board and the schools. Under the new law these rules were useless, by reason of the radical difference in the whole plan. One of the first duties was to revise these rules and to construct a new set, which would harmonize with the new law, and, in detail, provide for an administration of school affairs in conformity with its general plan and principle. While I have disclaimed extensive practical experience in public school management and the various ways of organizing school

boards, I may say that, under the circumstances just stated, the opportunities of my associates and myself for a comparison between the present and former plan of organization of the St. Louis board have been most ample. Furthermore, I found it of interest to inform myself, to some extent, about the plans in use at different times in the larger cities of this country, and, accordingly, notwithstanding the fact that my actual service as a school director does not embrace much more than a year, I have formed some very pronounced opinions on that subject.

If there are frequent allusions in this paper to the charter and rules of the St. Louis board, it will, I trust, be understood to be entirely by way of illustration, taken from perhaps the most recent piece of legislation on this subject, and because I have no better illustrations of certain points to furnish, though I fully realize the fact that I may be in danger of growing tiresome by repeated reference to my own city. The legislation under which we are operating, is the work of some of our citizens and the act of our legislature. It is *not* the work of our school board. We, members of the board, are, therefore, free to praise it. I may say that the feeling of satisfaction with this measure, and, chiefly with its non-partisan spirit, is the only condition on which a majority, if not all the members of our board, consented at all to become candidates. Where the provisions of the law were necessarily general, but their tendency obvious, the board did not hesitate to frame rules and regulations with a view to extending the good features by declaring specifically, in matters of detail, how all business shall be conducted, so as to accomplish fully the intent and purpose of the charter.

Thus, by way of further interpretation of the oath required of members of the board, the following resolution was adopted at its organizing meeting:

WHEREAS, The interference of the members of the board in the nomination of subordinates in the several departments, will tend to subvert the discipline of these departments by impairing the authority and responsibility of the heads thereof, thereby defeating the manifest purpose of the law and the best interest of the public schools, it is hereby

Resolved, That it is the sense of this board that the members thereof should entertain no application for offices or appointments in the service of the public schools, except for such as are made by the board directly, and

That as regards all other positions in the service they shall entertain no applications and make no recommendations, but leave the heads of the several departments free to give to the service the full benefit of their unbiased judgment."

This resolution was offered by a gentleman, who had seen service as the head of one of the most important executive departments of city business and whose convictions from his own experience, in the matter of obtaining the highest efficiency in public work, were no less pronounced than the sincerity of his desire to see the new board take the right course from the start upon this important question of policy.

Still this resolution is not an addition to, but merely an interpretation of the spirit that permeates the School Board Act of 1897.

The leading features of this act, so far as it relates to a plan of organizing and governing the working force of the board, are as follows:

It prescribes the officers by providing:

"It shall be the duty of the said board of education, as soon as practicable after its organization, to appoint a superintendent of public instruction, a commissioner of school buildings, a secretary and treasurer, an auditor and such other officers, employees and agents as it may deem proper; provided that no such officer, employee or agent shall be a member of said board."

To this list of officers the board added, by rule, the offices of attorney and commissioner of supplies. All other persons employed on the business of the schools are subordinates to the officers named. The offices of secretary and treasurer are filled by the same person. His duties are the usual ones performed by those officers and in addition he has charge of all the investment real estate owned by the board, including the renting and collection of the rentals. Repairs to this property are made through the office of the building commissioner upon the order of the board. The remaining officers perform the duties usually performed by the superintendent, architect, attorney, auditor and supply agent of most school boards.

The board classified all the business of the entire corps of officers and employees into four general heads or departments, as follows: Finance (including care of real estate), Instruction, School Buildings, Supplies. According to this

general subdivision, the board framed its rules and provided for four corresponding standing committees, each of which has general supervision over everything coming properly within its respective department. Though the auditor would, perhaps, be most logically included in the department of finance, still, in order to equalize as much as possible the work and jurisdictions of the committees, the auditing and supplies departments were coupled and placed under the supervision of a committee called "Auditing and Supplies."

This committee has also acted hitherto as a committee on rules. With our board this has been and still is an important function. A proposition is at present under consideration, providing for a separate committee on rules, to be composed of the chairmen of the four standing committees and the president. The purpose of this change is to secure a committee, already familiar with the various department rules, their practical working and the needs for any changes.

The four standing committees have done all committee work easily and satisfactorily. Each is composed of three members of the board and the president, who is ex-officio a member of all committees.

Inasmuch as the main feature of contrast between the present St. Louis plan and most of the others lies in the clean-cut separation of the functions of the salaried officers from those of the committees of the board, and even of the board itself, a more or less complete explanation of the provisions bearing upon these functions is indispensable to a clear understanding of the merits of what seems to be the better plan of organization. Your indulgence is therefore asked if I quote again from our charter and rules.

The duties of the standing committees are defined, generally, as follows:

"The committees provided for, shall have supervision over the departments of public school work, to which their names, respectively, apply, and all of the administrative business of the schools shall be subdivided among such departments. \* \* \* Each committee shall be responsible for the affairs of its department and shall see that the administrative officer in charge of each department most fully and adequately performs the duties pertaining to the same." The rule then goes on to provide that all complaints against the officer or any employee in its department shall, in the first instance, be made or referred to the committee of such department, which shall have power to present charges against any such person to the board.

A further rule begins with the following sentence: "The duties of the standing committees shall be *supervisory* and *not executive*, except as otherwise provided in the rule."

What is meant by this, is more pointedly expressed in the following provision:

"No standing committee shall have any power to direct the action of the administrative officer, or of any assistant, subordinate or employee of the department under its charge, but shall embody any and all information it may obtain, which it may deem desirable to submit to the board of education, in its reports, from time to time, together with such suggestions as it may see fit to make, respecting the business of the department or improvements which may be made therein."

The practice of preparing business for the action of the board at its monthly meetings conforms to the foregoing provisions. Committees meet at least once every month within a week before the board meeting and as much often as may be required. At such meetings the administrative officer submits to the committee all business on hand, which he will report to the board at its next meeting. He makes full explanations with his proposed recommendation in each case, so that the committee can decide whether the action proposed by the officer should be recommended to the board. Each head of a department is then called upon in the board meeting for his report, and, likewise, the respective committee for its report; and, in the light of the information thus obtained, the board takes action.

Such a plan of transacting business naturally implies the vesting of very comprehensive powers in the administrative officers, who, for liberal compensation, should be made to see to the doing of all of the executive work and be held strictly responsible for everything pertaining to their respective departments.

This purpose is clearly expressed in the new charter. With reference to the secretary and treasurer the charter provides: "Subject to the approval of the board, as to number and salaries, he shall have power to appoint assistants, for whom he shall be responsible and whom he may remove."

Similar provisions are made in the cases of the other officers. The power of appointment and removal of all janitors is vested in the commissioner of school buildings, save as to number and salaries and subject to any rules, prescribing a competitive examination, which the board may adopt. Such an examination has been prescribed and successful applicants are appointed in regular order from a list so arranged as to show the percentage attained in examination and the date of the application. Where different applicants attained the same percentage, the earliest in date of application is appointed. For these and all other employees in his department the commissioner of school buildings is directly responsible.

In regard to the appointment of teachers the charter defines the powers of the superintendent as follows:

"All appointments, promotions and transfers of teachers, and introduction and changes of text-books and apparatus shall be made *only* upon the recommendation of the superintendent and the approval of the board. All appointments



and promotions of teachers shall be made upon the basis of merit, to be ascertained as far as practicable, in cases of appointment, by examination, and in cases of promotion, by length and character of service."

As one further matter bearing upon the powers and responsibilities of the officers, it should be stated that, beyond small contracts and purchases within fifty \$50.00 dollars, all contracts of whatever kind must be awarded by public letting to the lowest responsible bidder. This statement concludes the matter of explanation, which it was necessary to submit, before pointing out the features, to which it is desired, especially, to call attention.

The awarding of contracts, with a view to the best results, involves one of the main principles in school board organization, which it is the purpose of this paper to advocate. It is quite in order, therefore, to speak of it in that connection. While the provision for public lettings is an excellent one, in so far as it aims to remove from the awarding of contracts all jobbery, whether by members of the board, its officers, or anyone else, it can only be rendered fully effectual by a board and staff of officers, who have at heart the single purpose of accomplishing the best results for the trust placed in their hands. Illustrations of the methods employed by designing persons, in order to circumvent the real objects of such a rule are numerous. Loosely drawn contracts and specifications and indulgent superintendence of the work of the contractor, from whatever cause, can quickly render such safeguard ineffectual, and, in fact, convert it into a disguise for imposition and robbery. The real safeguard lies alone in the hands of the men to whom has been confided the management of the trust. Let them select an efficient and trustworthy officer, let them grant him perfect freedom in the composition of his working force and the management of the work entrusted to him, but then let them hold such officer strictly responsible for the results. If the officer is competent and honest, he will be able either to enforce the performance of the contract as made, or to make it clear that the fault lies wholly with the contractor. If the latter be the fact, there are two ways of recourse; one a suit upon the contractor's bond for the damage sustained, and the other the blacklisting of the contractor as a delinquent, so as to prevent a recurrence of the imposition on the board. Determined action of this character would soon have the effect of teaching irresponsible and dishonest contractors to stay away. If, on the other hand, the officer of the board could have secured a proper performance of the contract, but from whatever cause, failed to do it, he has demonstrated his own unfitness for the place, and, in the interest of the service, should be unhesitatingly dismissed.

It was clearly with a view to such radical action, in a proper case, that the St. Louis Act of 1897 was drafted. All provisions declare and emphasize the *responsibility* which shall rest upon the administrative officers who are heads of departments. On the other hand, the Act recognizes that an indispensable condition of finding competent men, willing to assume such a high degree of responsibility, is to grant such officers a correspondingly large discretion and full control over the choice and management of their subordinates. Some of the leading provisions of this kind have been quoted. There are many others carrying out the same idea, but which need not be mentioned here. Most important of all the parts of this general plan is the feature of limiting committee work to *supervision*, purely. It is the main guaranty of protection to the administrative officers against officious or self-interested intermeddling, on the part of the members of the board in the affairs of executive officers. In all public work, where large numbers of persons are employed, the temptation to influence or dictate appointment, to steer patronage into the hands of particular contractors and merchants is ever to be guarded against, and, if officers are to be held rigidly accountable for the results of their work, it is not merely just to them, but absolutely indispensable to the satisfactory working of such system of business, to place them entirely beyond the reach of such interference.

The best feature of this new law seems to me to be its aim to provide a system, by which *public* business can be transacted as intelligently, economically and safely as business generally is transacted by the best regulated and most extensive *private* enterprises of modern times. There is no newly discovered principle in it. It simply attempts to have approved business principles applied to the business of the public. As soon as these simple methods can be intelligently applied and men can be elected to office, who enter upon their trust with no other purpose than to perform a public duty as faithfully as they are able, the difficulties of getting public work economically and properly done will vanish. For the same reason, it may be said that a school board composed of good men will accomplish good results under almost any plan of organization, while a board of men who seek the office for some advantage to themselves, and are indifferent to the interests of the public, will prove a failure under even the best plan.

The problem of selecting school directors apart from political influences, will, however, not be solved so soon. Till then it will be a matter of interest to every community to learn the most progressive and most reliable plan of properly managing a system of public schools, and every improvement which tends to guard against pernicious influences will be welcomed as a help in the right direction.

Two leading propositions are, therefore, to be deduced from the foregoing:

First: School boards should exclude absolutely political or religious influence. An oath of office, that the member

elect will, in all matters, be governed by considerations of merit and fitness alone, is a step in that direction. The penalty of removal from office by a court in summary proceedings for a willful violation of the oath of office, will, in most cases, prevent political jobbery.

Second: The functions of administrative officers and of the committees of the board should be clearly separated, so as to prevent encroachments by directors on the domains of the officers.

An apt illustration occurs to me of the advantages of a perfect understanding between members of the board and their officers, as to their *relative functions*. The text-book contracts for the St. Louis schools expired this spring, after a term of five years. Some of the old books had become very unsatisfactory, and, in making the new contracts, all concerned considered the matter of the selection of the new books of the very greatest importance. These contracts amount annually to many thousands of dollars. The matter was referred to the superintendent and his three assistants to make recommendations to the board, after propositions and prices had been publicly solicited, under a certain contract of conditions, from all publishers who desired to offer their publications. Within two months the matter was reported on, and the selections of the superintendents, down to the last detail, approved. Not one member of the board attempted, in the slightest degree, to influence the selection of a single book.

It seemed that all understood that, for such work, the Board had employed experienced educators and that any interference with their unbiased selection of books could be only productive of mistakes and harm. The Board devoted itself solely to the *business* feature, that is, the prices and conditions of the contracts. The result was that, without a single annoying occurrence, a complete set of new books was selected and contracted for within two months; and the board feels satisfied, from its confidence in the ability and integrity of its staff of superintendents, that the schools of St. Louis are to-day provided with the very best selection of books which can be found in the market.

The best plan, then, for organizing a School Board would appear to be one, providing for the incorporation of the principles and the elimination of the dangers, to which attention has been called and yet, without, devising the most simple machinery for the transaction of business.

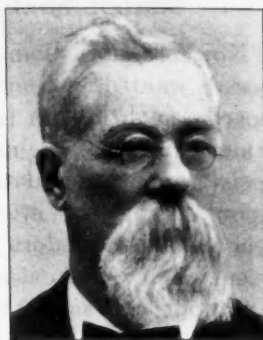
Simplicity, with ample safeguards, will simplify and expedite all the work. Complicated provisions in the rules and unnecessary or cumbersome committees will merely cause delay and afford opportunities for intrigue and trifling.

The officers mentioned in this paper are sufficient to cover the needs of an extensive system of schools in all the various departments. The question of the number of subordinate officers is naturally one, which must be solved in each case according to its own needs. Unnecessary committees or committees unnecessarily large, are to be avoided. It is very desirable to have a sufficient number of men, grouped in one committee, become thoroughly familiar with certain departments of the work and to grow accustomed to each other's views, in a general way. Our four standing committees of "Finance", "Instruction", "Building", and "Auditing and Supplies" have, after a trial of a year, served every purpose. It must be remembered, however, that their work is almost entirely supervisory. Occasionally, where a matter pertained with equal propriety to each of two committees, they have had joint sessions and made a joint report.

As a rule, I should say, the simpler the organization, the better the service. Still other considerations might have been discussed in this paper, but, as the space allotted to this subject has been consumed—if not more than consumed—they will be omitted. If I have succeeded in pointing out clearly the few leading features, which, to my mind, seem all-important in a plan for organizing a school board, I shall feel that something, at least, has been accomplished, in presenting these ideas for further discussion.



O. C. WHITNEY,  
Tacoma, Wash.



CHAS. B. SHAW,  
Pres. Board of Education,  
Penn Yan, N. Y.

Orrello Chesterfield Whitney is the principal of the Bryant School, Tacoma, Washington. He was chosen last summer manager and director of the National Educational Association for the State of Washington. He is progressive, energetic and popular, and has a splendid future before him. Prof. Whitney is still a young man.

## SPECIAL STUDIES.

Rochester, N. Y. Mayor vetoed vertical writing order.

Salt Lake City. Spanish will not be taught.

Tilghman's Island, Md. Clergy opposes physical culture, as leading to dancing.

Boston. City council recommends swimming schools.

Davenport, Ia. Commercial course in high school has been abolished.

Newark, N. J. Instructor of physical culture appointed.

New Britain, Conn. Kindergarten system added to schools.

Toledo. Effort made to drop German in grades. Commercial course to be added to high school.

Marion, O. Citizens demand that study of German be resumed.

Chicago. \$25,000 will be expended in schools on domestic science.

Detroit. Two year's commercial course to be added to high school.

Nashville. Manual training is under consideration.

St. Louis. Attempt to reduce music supervision defeated.

Kansas City. Spanish dropped from high school course.

Philadelphia. Cooking is taught in eight schools.

Rockford, Ill. Manual training extended to 7th and 8th grades.

Denver. Proposition to abolish kindergartens and extend physical culture to all grades under consideration.

Birmingham, Ala. Contemplates adding Spanish to high school.

Toledo, O. This city has the finest manual training system in the United States. There is a manual training school attached to every primary and grammar school in the city and a manual training high school operated in conjunction with each one of the two high school buildings. There is a manual training school board, which has charge of the teachers, but the Board of Education, through the superintendent, controls the course.

Minneapolis, Minn. The cost of the various departments for the year in the grade schools is given as follows: Sewing, \$1,740.25; manual training, \$4,256.36; cooking, \$4,035.27; music, \$2,000; and drawing, \$4,008.61.

Chicago. The Teachers' Club adopted resolution indorsing the teaching of music, drawing, and physical culture in the Chicago public schools for the purpose of the symmetrical educational development of the children, but that we deprecate any comparison between schools on these subjects.

Chicago, Ill. Supt. Andrews favors the establishment of a commercial high school, paying especial attention to the subject of bookkeeping.

The National Educational Association, which recently met at Washington, declared in favor of adding the Spanish language to the course of study in all the advanced schools in the nation.

Detroit, Mich. President Henderson favors the teaching of Spanish as an optional study in the high school.

Cleveland, O. President F. A. Kendall, of the school council, is of the opinion that the study of German in the elementary schools is of no use, and practically a waste of time for the pupils.

Sandusky, O. The board has decided not to drop astronomy from the curriculum.

Ypsilanti, Mich. The board is considering a proposition for forming a class in the Spanish language. A tuition fee of \$5.00 per half year, it is contemplated, to charge citizens outside of the high school enrollment.

Philadelphia, Pa. Superintendent Brooks has prepared a course of study for the commercial department in the boys' high school, in which Spanish is made an essential and prominent branch.

Milwaukee. Supt. Siefert favors the introduction of Spanish in the high schools on the assumption that our foreign trade will shortly demand it.



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### SCHOOL BOARDS AND SPANISH.

During the past month the question of teaching Spanish in the public schools came up for debate in a number of school boards. As yet the question does not receive a ready solution, and school officials have not acted with any degree of unanimity. While the results of the Spanish-American war and the prospect of closer commercial relations with the Southern countries have in each instance brought up the problem in school boards, yet in one or two instances where the Spanish language was taught, it was actually discontinued. A temporary prejudice may have been the cause.

The question is, however, seriously before the school public, and before the end of another year every school board in the United States will be called upon, either by local pressure or as a voluntary departure, to render a decision.

Thus far the leading educators approve of the proposition and favor the introduction of the Spanish language in the high schools, as was attested of the action of the National Educational Association last summer. Chicago's new superintendent, Prof. E. Benjamin Andrews, is among them. The Brooklyn board has appropriated \$1,500 for the study of Spanish, the Atlanta, Ga., board has followed, etc.

The arguments in favor of teaching the Spanish language may be summed up in the following: "We are a practical, commercial, progressive and humanitarian people, and we are improving in these respects every day of our lives, and since there lie vast fields for inroads into such worlds in Spanish lands from Mexico, our nearest neighbor on the south, to far Argentine and Chilean Patagonia, points farthest south in the Western world, we should lose no opportunities. If we are not to extend our usefulness in these respects, besides being equipped as competent government officials, educators, practical humanitarians, etc., to broaden and unite and free entire America, let us begin at home and consider the Spanish language as one of the most important means of these ends."

### SCHOOL BOARDS WANTED.

Nowhere more than in Cuba are school boards wanted just now—good, live school boards, such as are found in the average American city. School boards that will insist upon up-to-date school buildings, upon compulsory attendance, upon good teachers, upon modern text-books, and upon a sufficiency of practical school supplies. And upon such school boards will Cuba's future depend, and if the American authorities who now govern the island will at once inaugurate stringent school regulations, they will confer a boon and a blessing.

The school records of that island are ample proof of the sad condition of the educational interests. In the entire province of Santiago, for example, with a total population of 270,000, there were, under Spanish administration, only 6,000 pupils in the public schools, while the total expenditures for the public schools amounted to only \$16,000 a year—less than it costs to support a first-class grammar school in an American city. The conditions throughout Cuba at large were still more discreditable to Spain. In the entire island, with a population of more than 1,700,000, there were fewer than 14,000 children in the public schools, and the total annual expenditure for those institutions was only \$119,500. These figures tell their own disgraceful story of Spain's heartless indifference to the moral and intellectual welfare of the Cuban subjects.

A writer on the subject says:

It is evident that the free school, organized on the American plan, and supported by the liberal policy which has made popular education a success in this country, has an important mission to perform in Cuba. Self-government, to which the Cubans aspire with only a vague sense of its difficulties and responsibilities, must have its foundation in public intelligence. To-day that foundation does not exist. The Cubans are less illiterate than the Spaniards, it is true, for whereas only thirty-two out of every hundred Spaniards can read and write, forty-seven of every hundred Cubans have mastered those rudimentary branches. But Cuba must develop a much higher average of intelligence than these figures indicate before she can trust herself to manage her own civil and political affairs. To assist her in this difficult but indispensable task, America has voluntarily undertaken to establish in Santiago a system of free schools which should serve as a model and a working plan for Cuba's educational institutions. If the Cuban people can adopt this system and extend it to the whole of the island, making the education of the young an inexorable duty of citizenship, then the problem of self-government will ultimately solve itself, but if, on the other hand, they ignore it and drift along the old Spanish course of ignorance and indifference, their hope of durable, independent statehood will surely be disappointed.

It is therefore to the schoolhouse and its radiating influences for morality and progress that the Cuban people must look for their security as a sovereign nation. To-day they are beset by all the perils of ignorance. The blight of Spanish intolerance, bigotry and oppression is still upon them, but they are henceforth the arbiters of their own destiny, and they will advance in the blessings of peace, liberty and prosperity just in proportion as they reduce the percentage of illiteracy among the new generations. To help them forward in the great work of enlightenment, America offers the experi-

ence and the practical methods of public education gained in a century of constant progress and honorable achievement in the building of intelligent citizenship.

### "GREEN GOODS" TEACHERS' AGENCIES.

The reliable teachers' agency is a useful institution. It will remain a fixed factor in the relations between the school board employer and the employment seeking teacher. Its reasons for existence are apparent. The school board is enabled to draw its supply of required forces promptly, while on the other hand teachers seeking positions are properly placed.

The fakir, however, in teachers' agencies seems to be constantly at work. It is difficult to trap him, more specially since his victims are not always ready and willing, for fear of undesirable publicity, to prefer the charges.

During the present year we declined three advertisements sent us by teachers' agencies whose business methods we had a right to question. The evidence against them, while sufficiently strong to convince any sensible person that "green goods" methods were employed, was not sufficient to stand a test in court. Cases of this kind have been frequent and some of these fakirs have been just shrewd enough to avoid the clutches of the law.

These agencies spring up without having the slightest connection with, or prestige in the educational world, and its managers are without character or ability. They publish inviting advertisements, send out alluring circulars, and finally squeeze the teacher, who gets a position regardless of the influence which prompted it, for the commission. The teacher is oftentimes obliged to pay the commission to an agency having had absolutely no connection with his or her appointment. Again, blackmail is resorted to, an implied threat being constantly held forth, practically compelling teachers to register in certain bureaus. This is usually done by a vicious tongue lodged in the head of the manager or else through a periodical sheet which serves as an adjunct to the bureau.

We stand ready to give full publicity to an expose of the methods of any disreputable agency. Give us tangible proofs and we will do our best to stamp out the offending concern. It is our purpose to promote the good work of reliable bureaus. They should be supported, and to that end questionable concerns should and must be wiped out.

### THE NEW YORK BOARD.

Mayor Van Wyck is already awakening to the shortcomings of a small board. The New York school board is composed of busy men who cannot find time to attend to the increased school board labors thrust upon them. His honor, however, is looking for a remedy in the wrong direction. He now wants the board still smaller and pay a salary, thus securing the entire time of the members. That will prove expensive, besides being undemocratic.



The most democratic institution in the United States is its public school system. Its government ought to be in the hands of representative bodies. The people want to be in touch with it. It must, therefore, be a representative of the people.

No, Mayor Van Wyck, you cannot secure an ideal school board by creating a merely salary-dispensing, school-house-constructing bureau. Increase the size of your board, and divide the labors so that men can attend to them without consuming their entire time.

#### OUR CARTOONS.

The joke is on Supt. Maxwell of New York. Some one started the story that Maxwell had called for the photo of every schoolmarm in the employ of the board. It turned out that the story originated from an order given by Maxwell that applicants for certificates deposit also their photo in order to avoid misunderstanding and deception.

Inspector Hall, of the Detroit school board, introduced and secured the adoption of a rule by which teachers in the Detroit schools must be residents of that city.

The children excluded this fall from the public schools of New York city are 30,000 in number. Last year the number 18,000, the year before 49,806. Relatively the same condition of things obtains in nearly all other large cities of the United States.

The contest for the superintendency of schools in Cook County, Ill., the largest county in that state, if not in the United States, is now being waged. The contestants are O. T. Bright, the present incumbent, and E. G. Cooley. Both men are well known to the public and to the teaching forces of the state. Bright is the Republican nominee while Cooley is the Democratic nominee.

The Executive Committee of the N. E. A. will soon have to determine the location for next year's meeting. The impression seemed to prevail at the Washington meeting that Los Angeles or Salt Lake City would be chosen. The appearance of the representatives of Portland and Tacoma was a surprise. No one imagined that the far Northwest would become a bidder. Supt. Bingham, of Tacoma, did not make any effort until the last minute. He says: "We shall extend a formal invitation to the Executive Committee to come to Tacoma, simply because it is the place where the weather will be neither too cold nor too warm for comfort, and which can be reached by four continental railways without passing through the alkali sands of any burning deserts. Puget Sound is an ideal Summer resort. Our railway to Mt. Tacoma, the

grandest bit of scenery in America, is rapidly being completed."

The labor unions of Brooklyn want organized labor represented on the school board. The New York Journal has the following to say in regard thereto:

Not a bad idea, if the right sort of man is at hand. But there is no reason for any particular sort of man on a school board, except the man who understands the education of children. If a labor organization can say, "We have among our members a man particularly fitted for school work, and we want him on the School Board, because he understands that kind of work," all right. But to say that an organized labor man must be on a school board anyhow is ridiculous, and it damages organized labor. There is no demand that an organized labor man be chosen for tight rope walking—that would be dangerous to him. Selecting him for school board work, unless he is the best possible man apart from his labor views, is dangerous to children. No bankers, no clergymen, no mechanics, no Democrats, no Republicans, no anything for school boards, except men who know that children in a republic should be thoroughly educated and left to form their own opinions on all matters save matters of fact.

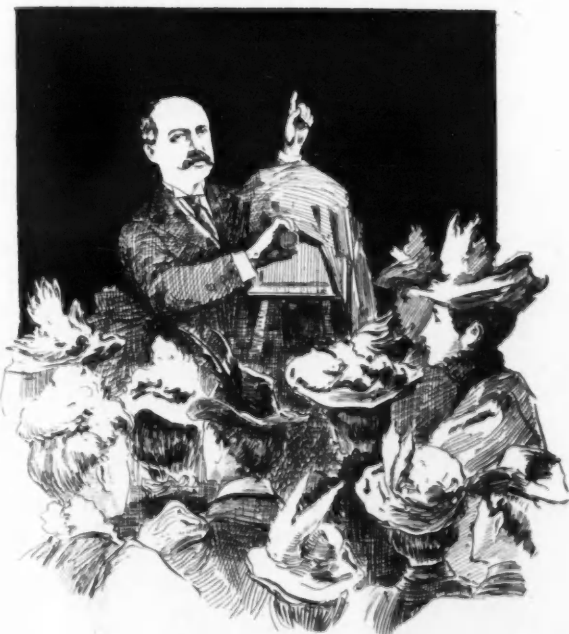
Superintendent J. F. Millsbaugh, of Salt Lake City, has been assured by Secretary Shepard that the Executive Committee will go west to investigate that city's claims for the 1899 N. E. A.

Daniel C. Gilman, LL.D., president of Johns Hopkins University, writing on the menacing danger of partisan school boards, says:

"At least it is possible everywhere to keep school boards out of politics. The members should be absolutely independent of partisan ties. They should have no allegiance to any political or ecclesiastical power which will prevent their acting in every particular, but especially in the selection of teachers, with the sole purpose of promoting the best interests of the schools that are under their supervision. If the school boards throughout the land were absolutely non-partisan, and made up of the wisest and most intelligent citizens of each particular region, almost everything else desirable would soon follow."



THE CONTEST FOR THE COOK COUNTY, ILL., SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENCY.



SUPT. MAXWELL, OF GREATER NEW YORK, IS TAKING PICTURES.



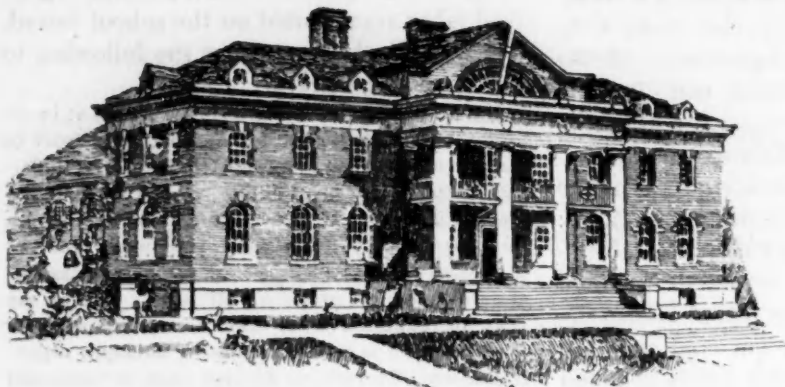
"WELL! I CAN SEE THIS NATION'S FINISH."  
—New York Herald.



INSPECTOR HALL, OF THE DETROIT SCHOOL BOARD, IS CARRYING OUT SOME IDEAS.

## BUILDING AND FINANCE.

Rochester, N. Y. The board of education has ordered the insertion in all future contracts, a clause



DESIGN FOR GYMNASIUM, UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER.  
J. FOSTER WARNER, ARCHITECT.



NEW HIGH SCHOOL, OTTAWA, KAS.  
GEO. P. WASHBURN, ARCHITECT.

calling for the performance of the work entirely by union labor and that all stone cut for new school buildings be cut in the city of Rochester.

The value of all public school property in Connecticut is \$9,344,690.31. Its value per capita of population is \$11.25.

Shenandoah, Pa. The school board has reduced the school term from ten to nine months and made reductions of from \$5 to \$10 per month in the salaries of all the teachers. This will result in a saving of over \$5000 to the district. The directors say the hard times have made it so difficult to collect taxes that to reduce the term and the teachers' salaries was the only alternative.

School taxes: Camden, N. Y., 5 mills; Anaconda, Mont., 5 mills.

Chicago, Ill. The following is a clause which is inserted in all school contracts: "None but union labor shall be employed on any part of the work where said work is classified under any existing union, by order of the board of education."

Cleveland, O. A party of public school officials recently made a trip to the East to inspect modern high school buildings. President Kendall of the school council said before going: "I am unwilling to allow the construction of two fine new high schools to proceed without seeing what there is new in the country in the

way of high school buildings.

Chicago, Ill. The buildings and grounds committee of the board of education has adopted a new policy in the award of school contracts. Formerly the committee always instructed the architect to make the award to the lowest responsible bidder in every instance. Under the new plan the architect will tabulate the bids and report to the committee. Then the committee will make the award direct. The change is made to prevent the award of school contracts to irresponsible firms.

Boston, Mass. The Building Trades Council has denounced members of the school committee for giving preference of employment to non-unionists, and appointed a committee to look into the matter with a view to organizing a political movement to retire members of the school committee who were known to be antagonistic to the employment of trade unionists.

Grand Rapids, Mich. The school budget is \$16,800 less than the one adopted for last year.

McKeesport, Pa. The board of education is unable to agree on a site for the proposed new high school.

Newark, N. J. Supt. Gilbert calculates that fully 2,000 children cannot be admitted to the schools this fall. School accommodations have not kept progress in proportion to the increase of little people.

Scranton, Pa. The school board claims the fines collected in cases of drunkenness and threatens to bring suit against the city to recover the money. Doubtless the sum is very large.

Lansing, Mich. The per capita cost to conduct the schools last year was \$24.36.

Minneapolis, Minn. The board of education figures for fiscal year show an unhandsome deficit of about \$67,000.

Little Rock, Ark. The recent apportionment of the school funds to the various counties in the state was at the rate of 74c. per capita.

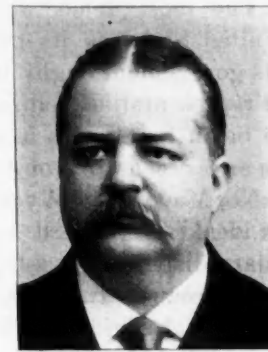
Salt Lake City, Utah. Cost of education per pupil, \$18.23.

Omaha, Neb. The board of education has laid on the table resolutions to the effect that only union labor be employed on new school buildings.

New York City. Owing to the fact that contractors were not paying union wages, a strike on all school buildings where repair work was being done, ensued.

School taxes: Marquette, Kan., 13 mills; Enterprise, Kan., 20 mills; Pittston, Pa., 20 mills; Anaconda, Mont., 4 mills.

Louisville, Ky. Superintendent of Public Instruction Davidson has sent a circular to superintendents and school officers showing that the per capita will be increased 10 cents over that of last year, making it \$2.30 for each child.



E. B. KRUTTSCHNITT,  
President Board of Directors,  
Parish of Orleans, La.



JAMES H. LINDSEY, ARCHITECT,  
Newark, N. J.

NEW FRANKLIN SCHOOL, EAST ORANGE, N. J.





HOW THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HALL WILL LOOK AFTER PROPOSED CHANGES ARE MADE.



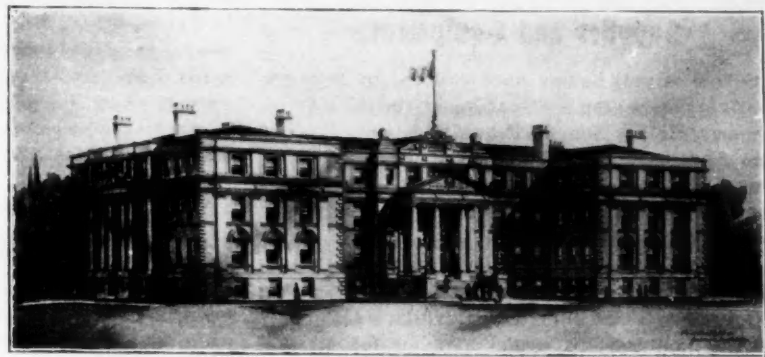
SKETCH FOR BRONX HIGH SCHOOL, NEW YORK CITY.  
C. B. J. SNYDER, ARCHITECT.



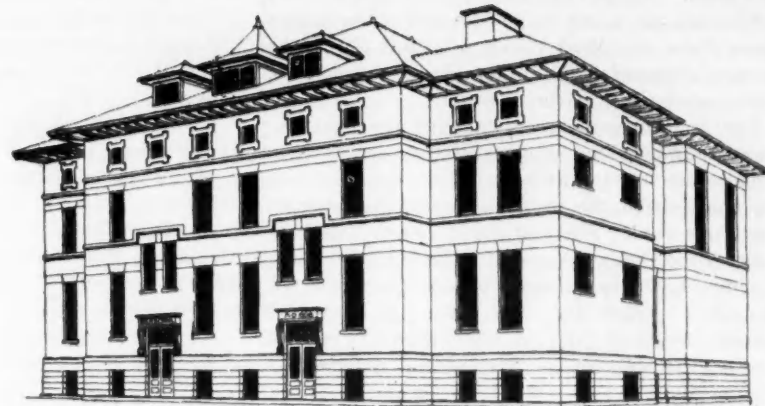
NEW WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.  
MALCOMSON HIGGINBOTHAM, ARCHITECTS.



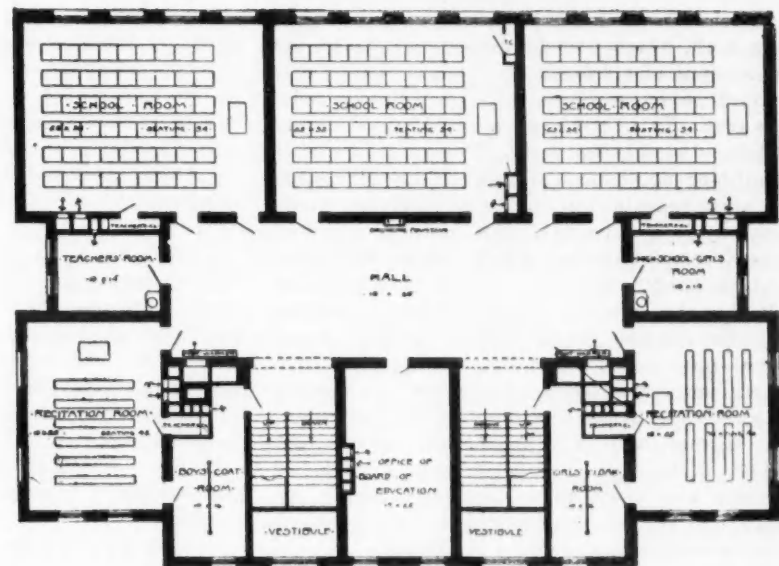
NEW HIGH SCHOOL, SAN RAFAEL, CAL.  
CUNNINGHAM BROS., ARCHITECTS.



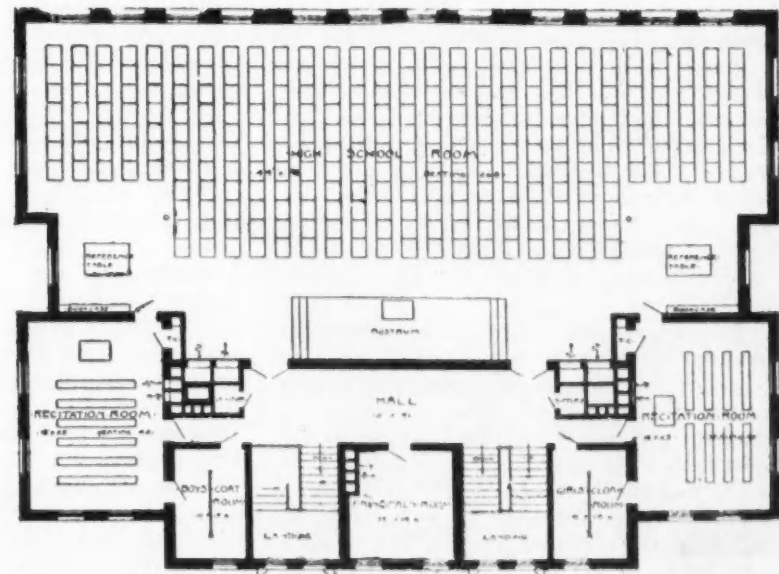
NEW COLLEGIATE BUILDING, IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.



NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, LINCOLN, ILL.  
J. M. DEAL, ARCHITECT.



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR



PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR

NEW HIGH SCHOOL, LINCOLN, ILL.  
J. M. DEAL, ARCHITECT.

### Supplies and Equipment.

School supply houses have suffered by fires recently. On September sixteenth the factory of Thomas Hall & Son, 79 Franklin Street, Boston, was destroyed. The firm had a number of large orders to fill when the fire broke out. All efforts have been made, however, to get into working shape as early as possible.

Cleveland. Director Hechler of the school council is a champion for fire escapes on school houses.

Baltimore. The William J. C. Dulany Company has the contract for school supplies for all the Indian schools of the United States, aggregating from \$35,000 to \$45,000, and extending from Maine to Alaska. Two and one-half carloads were shipped to Chicago last month, to be delivered to the Indian agent there, Mr. Mark Goode, who will check the invoices and send the material flying in all directions. This is about half of the contract.

The Baltimore concern has had the contract, which is awarded annually, for sixteen years. Previous to the year in which the Baltimoreans entered the competition the work had gone regularly to New York firms. The contract is awarded in New York by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Prof. William A. Jones, formerly of the University of Michigan. While the New York concerns had annually taken off the prize, the Baltimore firm was awarded the contract the first year it entered the bidding, and has held it steadily ever since. Three years ago a St. Louis firm sent in a bid which reached the same total as that of the Baltimore firm, but the latter was awarded the contract in consideration of previous satisfactory supplies.

Heretofore the goods have been sent directly to New York, which was the distributing point, but on account of a difference in freight rates it was decided to make Chicago the distributing point this year. This change necessitated a great deal of additional work in Baltimore. It requires altogether about four months to fill the contract and complete all arrangements for shipment, and the goods generally go in two lots. The material sent consists of books, stationery, slates, pencils, blackboard rubbers, chalk, call-bells for teachers, and similar school necessities. It is distributed among about 75 Indian schools. In the half of the contract lot just shipped by the Baltimore company there were nearly 500 cases of goods. Each case was marked with the name of the school for which it is intended, together with a copy of the contents and weight of the case. For every case of goods six invoices were made, to be distributed among the proper authorities. It required 60 days of hard work to prepare the goods for shipment.

The factory of the Holly Silicate Slate Co., New York, is under the personal supervision of Henry W. Holly, the inventor and original patentee of the silicate slate goods.

Rensselaer, N. Y. The question of having the new school books covered came up. Covers are furnished free, at times, by persons who derive much profit from advertisements on them. Seth Clarke said he would not stand for advertisements on covers of the school books, holding that those who had advertising to do, could do it in the newspapers, where it should be done. Mr. Clarke offered a resolution that blank paper covers be purchased for the new books. The resolution was adopted.

A Philadelphia high school is equipped with fire escapes which are innovations. On each floor the corridors are made of asphalt. Iron stairways with asphalt steps lead from these corridors to the ground, but they are built inside the building and covered so that one on the outside does not know that the building is equipped with fire escapes. These fire escapes or staircases are in constant use.

Buffalo, N. Y. The board has decided to furnish free to pupils in the primary grades the paper required in their studies. The contract price for furnishing these supplies at wholesale is under \$2,500.

Warrensburg, Mo. Every proposition by any vendor or agent for the introduction of maps, apparatus, furniture, supplies, etc., for the use of the schools, must be made in writing to the board through the secretary; any verbal proposition, either to the board or any member thereof, is not entertained.

Wisconsin. A number of country districts are being canvassed by agents for school supplies, and surprising stories are being told of bargains made with various school boards. It is said that one board contracted for a schoolroom chart for \$10, while the board of an adjoining district signed for the same chart at \$30, and still other boards have agreed to pay as high as \$47 for the same thing. The chart itself, we are told, was intended to sell at from \$10 to \$12.

Grand Junction, Ia. Board purchased Relief Maps from the Central School Supply House, Chicago.

J. M. Olcott & Co., Chicago, are rushed with orders for physical and chemical apparatus.

Mr. J. J. Hoefman, formerly with the Deering Harvester Company, has taken charge of the business affairs of the Krag Manufacturing Co., of Chicago. This concern manufactures the well-known Tengwall Patent File for periodicals, now largely used by schools, colleges, and libraries.

A fire broke out on the evening of September 10th in the building occupied by the Prang Educational Co., 151 Wabash Avenue, Chicago. It started on the ground floor which is occupied by a restaurant. While the latter was ruined, the flames did not reach the third floor which is occupied by the Prang Company.

Mr. R. Ryse, the Indianapolis school supply man, is by no means new in the business. Some ten years ago he went out to represent W. A. Olmsted. He was successful and some six or eight years ago he started in business for himself. He now enjoys a good patronage throughout the state of Indiana. His credit is good and the confidence reposed in him by school men and the business community is well deserved.

Council Bluffs, Ia. On recommendation of the superintendent, five charts of "North American Birds" published by the Nature Publishing company, were ordered purchased.

Eau Claire, Wis. School supplies procured from the United States School Furniture Company.

Columbus, O. Bicycle racks are to be provided in the basements of all school buildings.

St. Louis Mo. Laboratory apparatus purchased from the Henry Heil Chemical Co., and L. E. Knott apparatus company.

Chicago, Ill. A large quantity of chalk obtained from A. H. Abbott & Co.

A beautiful American flag is the patriotic device on the monthly desk blotter of the Joseph Dixon Crucible Co., Jersey City, N. J. It also bears the appropriate motto: "Thus far our fortune keeps an upward course, and we are grac'd with wreaths of victory."

Louisville, Ky. The school board has requested the board of public safety to place fire alarm boxes near several of the school buildings.

Defiance, O. The new school building is to be equipped with the Syphon Education Range water closet.

Junction, Ia. A set of the new educator charts has been purchased for the schools.

Moline, Ill. The contract awarded to erect fire escapes and stand pipes on the school buildings, coming within the requirements of the law, awarded to the Dayenport Foundry and Machine Co.

Norway, Mich. School supplies procured from A. Flanagan.

Lincoln, Ill. Contract for blackboards awarded to the Standard School Furnishing Company.

Newburg, N. Y. A quantity of school supplies purchased from Peckham, Little & Co.

Buffalo, N. Y. Awarded to Randolph McNutt the contract for furnishing blackboards to new schools and annexes for one year.

Meadville, Pa. The Holden Patent Book Cover Co. has sold the board a large number of patent book covers. Pens have been procured from the Esterbrook Steel Pen Co., and pencils from the Eagle Pencil Co.

Bay City, Mich. The board of education procured maps from J. M. Olcott & Co.

Grand Rapids, Mich. Scientific supplies purchased from Alfred L. Robbins Co.

Binghamton, N. Y. The state department has furnished the board of education with a stereoptican and views for teaching geography in the schools.

Duquoin, Ill. Drawing material purchased from the Prang Educational Co.

De Pere, Wis. A contract entered into with Joseph Reek, of Neenah, for artificial stone blackboards.

La Crosse, Wis. A traveling man for a Chicago school supply house recently entertained the school commissioners with a modern globe with sun and moon attachments, but the commissioners felt too poor to invest, but admitted it was a good thing.

### Eimer & Amend's Store Wrecked by Flames and Explosions.

An explosion of nitroglycerine started a disastrous fire last month in the chemical and physiological supply house of Eimer & Amend. The loss is said to be more than \$150,000. The firm of Eimer & Amend is one of the best known drug concerns in the country, having done business in the same place for forty-nine years. The firm was originally composed of August Eimer and Bernard G. Amend. Mr. Eimer retired several years ago, holding but a small interest in the business, and Otto P., Robert F., and C. A. L. Amend, the three sons, succeeded him. The firm was then incorporated.

The building was a seven story granite structure, erected on ground leased from the Hamilton Fish estate. It is 75 by 100 feet and is L shaped. The ground floor was used as a salesroom for the retail and wholesale trade. The second floor was used as a store room for all chemicals, on the third floor drugs and herbs were stored; the fourth floor was given over to patent medicines, the fifth floor was used as the shipping department and the sixth floor was occupied by crates filled with costly glassware. The laboratory was on the seventh floor.

Mr. Amend and several of his clerks not ready to close at 9:30 o'clock in the evening. Suddenly there was a loud explosion on the second floor, presumably from the nitroglycerine stored there. The houses in the immediate neighborhood trembled from the shock. Pieces of glass flew across the street and went through the wide-open doors of a saloon, slightly cutting two men who were drinking at the bar. The gaslights in adjoining buildings were put out by the concussion. The lights in the elevated station at Eighteenth street were also extinguished. Instantly flames burst from the corridors of the second floor. An alarm was sent in, but before the fire department arrived the flames had followed the elevator shaft up to the fifth floor.

"I am unable to state our loss," said Mr. Amend. "We are insured for \$200,000, which covers about nine-tenths of the value of the building and stock. I believe our stock is hopelessly and completely ruined. What the damage to the building amounts to I am not yet able even to approximate. I am truly glad that no one lost his life and that there was no terrible accident. We shall be ready for business again, however, in a week's time."



CHAS. F. ABBOTT,  
Member Board of Education,  
Plainfield, N. J.



School Furniture.

Thomas Kane & Company report that August, 1898, was by far the largest month in the history of their company. Their sales were fifty per cent. greater than during the same month last year. This company does not make much noise but they appear to get there just the same.

The New Orleans board has just placed an order with Thomas Kane & Company, of Racine, Wis., for 3,500 Victor Adjustable Chair Desks. A short time ago, this board called for bids on desks which brought a conclave of representatives of school furniture companies such as is rarely seen. Every style of desk was submitted and very critically examined. It was finally decided that only adjustable desks would be used. Then, after more deliberation, chair desks were admitted to be so much more desirable that that style was selected. This sifted out all but six companies. The board, after most careful consideration, awarded the contract to Thomas Kane & Company, stating that while this company was not the lowest bidder, they had produced the best desk and were entitled to their order. This was one of the hottest contests of the year. The above order makes the fourth bill of adjustable desks sold to the city of New Orleans by this company.

Baltimore. The county contest on school furniture was between J. H. Medairy & Co., the W. J. C. Dulaney Co., the J. C. Bond Co., and the Hudson School Furniture Co. The Soper and Orion desks were in question. The contract was finally awarded to the Dulaney company.

Grand Rapids, Mich. It is announced that eastern capitalists are arranging for the consolidation of the Grand Rapids School Furniture company and Haney School Furniture company of this city and the Stafford School Furniture company, of Muskegon.

The school board of Martins Ferry, O., after comparison of the different school desks made, were greatly taken with the ball bearing hinge feature of the desk made by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co., and placed their order with that company for about 150 school desks.

Trenton, Mo. School desks have been purchased from the Western School Supply company.

The board of education of Bar Harbor, Me., have of late been giving considerable attention to the proper seating of school rooms, and they have become converts to the subject of adjustable desks. After investigating the matter, and as a consequence of their conversion, they have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for 200 of their combination adjustable desks. They will try this number of desks, and if results are as satisfactory as anticipated they will hereafter use nothing but adjustable desks.

The school of Lansingburg, N. Y., will hereafter be seated with ball bearing desks made by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co., a contract being entered in with that firm to refurnish their school rooms.

The school board of Calhoun, Ky., have just sent an order to the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for 100 of their ball bearing automatic desks.



REV. JOS. S. EVANS,  
President Board of Education,  
West Chester, Pa.

Hartford, Ct. Bids received from Haywood Bros. and Wakefield company for high school desk contract.

Ontonagon, Mich. It has been decided to purchase what school desks are needed from the Manitowoc Seating Co.

Detroit, Mich. The Manitowoc Seating Co. was given the contract for seats, a company which had lower figures being turned

down. The argument in favor of the higher-priced seats was that the castings were union made.

The school board of Haverhill, N. H., have just placed another order for ball bearing school desks with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. The board are well pleased with the desks manufactured by that company, having given them a thorough trial in their schools.

Findlay, O. A quantity of school desks purchased from the United States School Furniture Company.

Washington, O. The United States School Furniture company was awarded the school desk contract.

The school board of White Rock, Pa., have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for 75 ball bearing desks.

Sedalia, Mo. It is reported that the Piqua School Furniture Co., of Piqua, O., expects to establish a branch agency here.

The school board of Girardville, Pa., after investigating the features of the different school desks made, placed their order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for 80 of their ball bearing desks.

Union Hill, N. J. The New Jersey School Furniture company has protested against the awarding of the school desk contract, claiming its bid was the lowest.

The school board of Hancock, Mich., have placed their annual order for school desks with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. This board have been buying desks for years from the Grand Rapids people and the regularity with which they place orders with that company testifies to the esteem in which their desks are held.

The school board of Newberry, Vt., have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Company for a large number of ball bearing school desks.

Syracuse, N. Y. The board of education received bids for the school desk contract from the following firms: Manitowoc Seating Co., Randolph McNutt, D. McCarthy & Sons, J. M. Sauder Co., C. W. Bardeen.

The school board of Newark, O., have just placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for ball bearing school desks. This is only one of the many improvements that are being inaugurated in the new schools.

The schools of Cripple Creek, Col., have been overhauled and refurnished in different ways, among other improvements are new school desks. An order for about 200 ball bearing desks having been placed with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co.

The school board of Paxton, Neb., have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for 80 ball bearing school desks.

Craig, Mo., have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for ball bearing school desks.

The school board of Barnesboro, Pa., not to be outdone by their neighbors, are giving their school buildings a general overhauling, having ordered school furniture of the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. as well as new blackboards and other necessities.

The new school building in Mansfield, Pa., is to be seated with ball bearing desks, made by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co.

The school board of Appleton, Wis., have placed another order for desks with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. For many years this board has been buying desks from the Grand Rapids Company. Other school furniture companies are located nearer, but they are so well pleased with the Grand Rapids desks that they prefer to continue doing business with Grand Rapids.

Buffalo, N. Y. The school desk contract was divided between the Grand Rapids School Furniture Company and Randolph McNutt.

Monticello, Ia. School desks purchased from Thomas Kane & Co., of Racine, Wis.

The schools of Paragon, Ind., are being refurnished, and other improvements made. New desks have been ordered from the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co.

The Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. have received an order from the school board of Mishawaka, Ind., for about 60 new ball bearing school desks.

The school board of Middlesex, Vt., are taking a great interest in the improvement of their schools, many new improvements are being made in the way of furniture, apparatus, etc. They have just ordered a nice lot of desks from the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. and hope with their improved facilities to obtain excellent results.

The board of education of Green Springs, O., after a protracted and extensive examination of the different school desks made, finally concluded to place their order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co., believing that the desks made by that concern were superior to others they examined.

Topeka, Ind., has placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for over 100 school desks.

The people of Milford, Utah, are taking a great interest in the school question. Their schools are given a regular overhauling and they are equipping them with modern improvements. Have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for school desks, recitation seats, and various other pieces of furniture so necessary to make a complete school room.

The schools of Panama, N. Y., are being improved in different ways. A new ball bearing school desk has been purchased from the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co., as well as other furniture.

The school board of Ann Arbor, Mich., have taken a very decided step forward in the way of modernizing their schools. Heretofore their school buildings have been furnished with rather old and antiquated styles of school furniture; but with the new superintendent, Mr. H. M. Slauson, an interest has been aroused in the question of more suitable and comfortable seating for the children. The result was that the different manufacturers were invited to submit samples of their furniture for the consideration of the board, and after examining the different desks made, it was the unanimous opinion that the samples submitted by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. were in every way more satisfactory and suitable than any others that they had examined, and they placed an order with that company for refurnishing their schools. Mr. Slauson has taken hold of the schools in a wide awake, energetic manner, so characteristic of him, and there is every prospect for the most successful administration held for many years.

The school board of Eureka Springs, Ark., have started out to improve and modernize their schools, and as a step in this direction have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for over 100 of their ball bearing school desks, and this is but the beginning, other improvements being contemplated.

The school board of Coal Park, Pa., have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for ball bearing school desks.



E. MERTON,  
Vice-Pres. Board of Education,  
Waukesha, Wis.



T. E. RYAN,  
Member Board of Education,  
Waukesha, Wis.

## Book Reviews.

**PHYSIOLOGY, EXPERIMENTAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.** By Buel P. Colton, A.M., Illinois State Normal University. Cloth, 423 pp. \$1.12. D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, Chicago.

The author begins in the laboratory, and stays in the laboratory. He has his classes learn physiology by handling and examining the various organs, and seeing for themselves what work each organ performs. This is his fundamental idea in teaching the subject. He gives more than a hundred illustrations, many of them colored, and all good. He brings in the results of the latest investigations in discussing diseases. He discusses the subject of foods and cooking, the effects of various habits on health, and the care of the sick. It is a practical treatment of the subject of the body and its condition.

**LINCOLN LITERARY COLLECTION.** By J. P. McCaskey. Cloth, 576 pp. \$1.00. American Book Co.

A collection of nearly seven hundred of the choicest selections in poetry and prose in the English language. It is designed for use in the school-room and for reading in the family circle. The book is named in honor of Abraham Lincoln because of his well-known habit of committing to memory passages and entire poems that especially pleased him. It is especially advised that young people be encouraged to commit to memory as many of these pieces as possible. They are suggestive of thought and pleasant fancies, and it will be a pleasure to recall them in leisure hours. It was the stirring ballads of Lake Erie that first interested the boy Garfield, and awakened the activities that led to his eminent career. The varied selections in this book, and there are selections for every occasion, properly used in the home and the school, may have the highest educational influence. W. H. B.

**THE REVIVAL OF ENGLISH POETRY IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.** Cloth, 257 pp. The Morse Company, New York, Boston.

The editor of this book is Elinor M. Buckingham, A.B., instructor in English, Adelphi College. She considers the poets of the early part of the century as making an era. In the introduction these are treated with biographical sketches and criticisms and with an evidently just estimate of the value and influence of their writings. She has prepared a carefully arranged table of the dates of the important events in the lives of these writers. The reign of Elizabeth, the Civil War, the time of Anne, had been eras of prominent writers. Then came, at the beginning of the century, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelly, Keats, and Byron, poets worthy of special study. Extended selections from each are given.

**FOUR CENTURIES OF SPANISH RULE IN CUBA.** By Italo Emilio Canini. Cloth, 220 pp. 75 cents. Laird & Lee, Chicago.

The interest that has for several months centered in Cuba has led to the study of her history. This is a historical sketch of the island with illustrations from old and modern authorities, and the latest official statistics about Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines. The condition of the natives, the progress of the discoveries and settlements are given with many details of Spanish cruelty and misrule. It is not a pleasant story, but history should be a record of facts. The intervention of the United States is fully justified. The book contains about forty attempts at illustrations, but some of them can hardly be called embellishments.

**HANDBOOK OF NATURE STUDY.** By D. Lange, Instructor in the Public Schools of St. Paul. Cloth, 329 pp. \$1.00. The Macmillan Company, London, New York, Chicago.

A book for teachers and pupils in elementary schools. In a simple, familiar, entertaining way the learner is led to observe the common plants in the flower and vegetable gardens, in the meadows and along the roadsides. Their various parts and the manner of growth are described. The smaller

forms of animal life become interesting under minute examination. Birds with their plumage and habits are studied. Domestic animals with their history and uses are made the subject of profitable study. The trees of the forest and fruit trees are clothed with new interest as they are more closely examined, and the products of the farm as well. Scientific names are given, while descriptions and narratives are given in simple, plain, English words. While scientifically accurate, it is a very readable book for the home as well as a text book for schools; interesting in style and valuable for the information it contains. It is well illustrated.

W. H. B.

**THE EUGENE FIELD BOOK.** Edited by Mary E. Burt and Mary B. Cable. Published by Charles Scribner's Sons. Price 60 cents.

This handsome little work contains verses, stories and letters from the pen of Eugene Field selected especially for school room reading, weekly exercises, school entertainments, and kindergartens. Mr. Field is the acknowledged ideal children's poet; he knew what they wanted and what they thought. The volume is illustrated making it attractive. Another feature is Mr. Field's autobiography. The work will prove very profitable to teachers and children.

**THE STORY OF THE ENGLISH.** By H. H. Guerber, author of "Story of the Romans," "Story of the Greeks," etc. Cloth, 12mo, 356 pages, illustrated. Price, 65 cents. American Book Company, New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago.

Guerber's success as a writer of supplementary books is undisputed. In this book he describes the leading events, characters, and places in English history in the form of stories or lessons suitable for school reading. Many incidents and anecdotes not included in larger works are interspersed with these stories, not only because they are interesting in themselves, but because they are so frequently used in art and literature that familiarity with them has become indispensable.

**BIRDS OF THE UNITED STATES.** By Austin C. Aggar. Cloth, 12mo, 415 pp. American Book Company, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago.

A manual for the identification of the species of birds found east of the Rocky Mountains. It gives a general description of the external parts of birds and an explanation of the technical terms used in ornithology; classifies and describes the different species of birds; studies the birds in the field, and gives a key for their identification; and gives minute instruction for the preservation of bird specimens. Great care has been taken in the preparation of this manual. Descriptions are brief and readily understood. The illustrations are numerous, and were drawn expressly for the work. A general key to land and water birds and a complete index are added. The book is well adapted to interest young people in the study of birds.

**THE STUDY OF THE CHILD.** By A. R. Taylor, Ph.D., president of the State Normal School, Emporia, Kansas. Cloth, 215 pp. \$1.50. D. Appleton & Company, New York and Chicago.

This is Volume XLIII in the International Educational Series, edited by U. S. Commissioner Wm. T. Harris, LL.D. It is a brief treatise on the psychology of the child, with suggestions for teachers, students and parents. It treats in order of the senses, consciousness, attention, the feelings, the will, the intellect, and all its functions, children's instincts and plays, manners and morals, stages of growth, fatigue point. It traces the development of the child's various faculties, and calls attention to conditions that require special treatment from parents and teachers. The editor's preface is especially suggestive, noting the gradual transition from the symbolic to the conventional stage,—from the make-believe of the child to the actual of the man. How far is one's character made up of imitations? How may original defects be best remedied? How may tendencies toward abnormal conditions be

checked? Parents and teachers will find in this book many things to interest and profit them.

**POEMS OF AMERICAN PATRIOTISM.** Chosen by Brander Matthews. Published by Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York, Chicago. Price 60 cts.

At this period when the nation is surcharged with patriotism no stronger magnet can be held up. The publisher not only hit upon a timely book but chose a good compiler. The selections cover the entire range of poems on patriotism written in this country, or at least those worthy of preservation.

**THE LABORER AND THE CAPITALIST.** By Freeman Otis Willey. Published by the Equitable Publishing Co., New York. Price \$1.25.

The author of this volume sets forth in a logical and lucid manner the mutual relation of capital and labor. He quotes extracts from newspapers, speeches and recent books to show that a hostile feeling between the two exists, and aims to foster harmony. The author contends that the accumulation of large fortunes is an accompaniment of the progress of our age and is as much a benefit to the many as to the few. He, however, does not attempt to justify some of the unprincipled ways in which large fortunes have been made, but he believes that the exceptional cases are too often cited. It is shown, that during hard times, capital suffers with labor. The fact that small partnerships are being crowded out by an increase in the number of corporations is held to have resulted in better opportunities for small investors and to the frugal wage earner the sharing in the profits of industry. The subjects: child labor, the foreign population in large cities, and the concentration of wealth are treated at length. The fairness of the work to both sides makes its reading very profitable.

**TWELVE NAVAL CAPTAINS.** By Molly Elliot Seawell. Published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, Chicago. Price, 60 cents.

This little volume, covering 223 pages, is a record of Americans who made themselves immortal, beginning with Paul Jones. Then follow Dale, Truxtun, Bainbridge, Preble, Decatur, Somers, Hull, Perry, Stewart, MacDonough and Lawrence. The author has a spirited style, covering the attractive as well as the essential features in the career of her heroes. The subjects are well chosen and the book will make a desirable supplementary reader.

**THE PICTURESQUE GEOGRAPHICAL READERS, Sixth Book.** By Charles F. King. Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston.

This volume treats Northern Europe, and is equally as interesting as the preceding volumes. It covers 350 pages and is beautifully embellished with engravings. The author's style is easy, his diction is pure, and his skill in maintaining an interest is marked. The book was issued last November but the publishers did not send this volume until very recently.

## Books Received.

**Soldier Songs and Love Songs.** By A. H. Laidlaw. Published by William R. Jenkins, New York city. Price, \$1.00.

**Stories of Ohio.** By William Dean Howells. Published by the American Book Co., New York, Cincinnati and Chicago. Price 60 cts.

**Stories of Indiana.** By Maurice Thompson. Published by the American Book Co., New York, Cincinnati and Chicago. Price 60 cts.

**Tales of Discovery on Pacific Slope.** By Margaret Graham Hood. Published by Whitaker & Ray Co., San Francisco, Cal. Price 60 cts.

**The Picturesque Geographical Readers.** By Charles F. King. Sixth book, Northern Europe. Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston.

**Poems of American Patriotism.** Chosen by Brander Matthews. Published by Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York city. Price 60 cts. net.

**Twelve Naval Captains.** By Molly Elliott Seawell. Published by Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York city. Price, 60 cts. net.



Magazines Received.

The Arena for September. Published monthly by the Arena Publishing Co., Copely Square, New York city. Price 25 cts. per copy, \$2.50 per annum.

The Atlantic Monthly for September. Published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., New York city. Price \$4.00 per year.

Kindergarten Review for September. Published by Milton Bradley Co., Springfield, Mass. Price, \$2.00 per year.

The Nickel for September. By F. K. Young. Illustrated. The Nickel Magazine, Boston, Mass. Price 5c. per copy, 50c. per year.

The Forum for September. Published by The Forum Publishing Co., New York city. Price 35c. per copy, \$3.00 per year.

The Cosmopolitan for September. Edited by John Brisben Walker. Published by the Cosmopolitan Publishing Co., Irvington, N. Y. Price 10c. per copy, \$1.00 per year.

The Aolian Quarterly. Published by the Aolian Co., New York city.

The Atlantic Monthly Review of Reviews for September. Published by the Review of Reviews Co., New York city. Price 25c. per copy, \$2.50 per year.

Book Reviews for September. Published by The Macmillan Co., New York city. Price 5c. per copy, 50c. per year.

Publications Received.

Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction of New York. 1898. Vols. I and II.

Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Schools of the city of Richmond, Va. 1897.

Third Annual Report of the Inspector of State Graded Schools, State of Minnesota. 1898.

Report of the Sedalia Public Schools. 1897-1898. The State Normal School, Albion, Idaho. Fourth annual catalogue.

Meadville, Pa. Objection has been raised to the use of Dickens' Child's History of England, on account of its sectarian character, and the flippant manner it treats serious matters.

Lincoln, Neb. The free text system is in operation here. Supt. Saylor says: "There is a tendency on the part of pupils to think less of their books than if they owned them; but we attempt to supply this loss by putting in its place a pride in taking care of other people's property."

California. The text books sold by the state since January 1, 1898, amount to \$51,309. A new advanced History of the United States has been written by Chas. H. Keyes, formerly an educator in the state, now of Holyoke, Mass.

St. Louis, Mo. The Central Trades and Labor Union appointed a committee to appear before the school board and petition for free school books in the upper grades; also to grant scholars permission to take their books home with them at night. By the present arrangement, only the lower four grades receive the benefits of the free book plan.

Syracuse, N. Y. A system has been decided upon to fumigate text books.

Louisville, Ky. The board has voted to drop the use of text books of grammar in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

Pierre, S. D. A plank in the platform of one of the political parties proposes that the state shall publish its own school books and furnish them free to the children.

There are ways without number that primary reading and spelling are taught. The rational way is by the Pollard Synthetic Method. Full particulars about this method can be learned by writing the Western Publishing House, 358 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill., who have an advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

TEACHERS' SALARIES.

St. Paul, Minn. The public school teachers have decided to bring suit against the city for back salary. A decision was reached whereby the 500 teachers will contribute \$1 each to bring the question into the courts.

A bill is pending in congress to increase the salary of Dr. William T. Harris, United States Commissioner of education from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per annum.

Camden, N. J. The salaries of janitors have been fixed at \$600 per annum for all eight-room school houses, and \$25 extra for each additional room.

Boise City, Id. The school board voted a week's salary to every teacher in their respective corps who attended the State Teachers' Association convention.

Chicago. The aldermen voted unanimously for the increase of salaries of the grade teachers.

The average pay per month for men teachers in the state of Massachusetts last year was \$144.80; for women \$52.20.

Milwaukee. The salary of the first assistant superintendent fixed at \$2,500 and that of the second assistant \$2,000 per annum.

McKeesport, Pa. The principal of the high school will hereafter receive \$1,300 a term and department teachers \$100 per month instead of \$80.

Duluth, Minn. The salary schedule for teachers in all grades, not including the high school grades, was fixed at a minimum salary of \$45 a month and a maximum of \$65 a month, with monthly increase of \$2.50 for each succeeding year of service until such teacher shall have attained the maximum limit of \$65. The salaries of all directors of the kindergartens was fixed at a minimum of \$45 a month and a maximum of \$50, while the kindergarten assistants will receive a minimum salary of \$30 a month and a monthly increase of \$5 for each succeeding year of service until the maximum of \$50 is attained.

Anoka, Minn. High school principal's salary fixed at \$70 per month.

Detroit. The teachers' committee of the board has decided not to cut teachers' salaries the coming year. Enough teachers will be dropped to meet the cut in salary fund made by the estimators. The schedule increase in salaries of teachers now drawing over \$70 per month will not be made this year.

New York City. Special teachers of vocal music, manual training, modern languages, cooking and phonography, receive a salary of \$1,000 per annum, and at the end of two years of meritorious service, a salary of \$1,200 per annum. Special teachers of sewing receive a salary of \$800 per annum, and at the end of two years of meritorious service a salary of \$1,000 per annum.

Los Angeles, Cal. A rule adopted provides for the payment of teachers according to the number of years that they have taught.

Chicago. The physical culture teachers have made a request for a raise in their salaries. The petition asks that those who have served the board for five years or more should be given an increase of \$100 a year until the maximum of \$1,600 a year for high school instructors is reached and \$1,400 for teachers in the elementary schools. Those whose length of service is less than five years, it is requested, should be given an increase of \$50 a year until the maximum of \$1,400 and \$1,600 respectively are reached, according to the school.

Allegheny, Pa. The average salary of male teachers is \$135 per month; average salary of female teachers, \$57 per month.

Wilmington, Del. Salary of supervisor of music in the primary departments, \$700 a year.

Oswego, N. Y. Teacher of French in high school, \$475 a year.

Louisville, Ky. Supervisor of drawing, \$62.50 a month.

East Liverpool, O. Teacher of music and drawing, \$50 per month.

School Board Elections.

Mankato, Minn. President Lorin Cray, vice-president, T. R. Coughlin, secretary, George H. Brewster and treasurer Clark Keysor.

Mt. Morris, Mich. Moderator, Charles Johnson; treasurer, George Hart.

Hillsdale, Mich. Member, F. H. Stone.

Lansing, Mich. President, J. F. Campbell; clerk, R. E. Olds; treasurer, John S. Bennett, and secretary J. H. Wardwell.

Ann Arbor, Mich. Members, Junus E. Beal, Mrs. Anna B. Bach and Christian Mack.

Penn Yan, N. Y. Clerk, Jay Crissey.

Iron Mountain, Mich. Members, Dr. J. A. Crowell, Robert C. Faucett and John James.

Jottings, N. Y. Member, W. W. Parry.

Gladwin, Mich. Members, Dr. J. W. Leminger and D. Mills.

Acadia, La. Members, E. L. Hartman, S. W. Steen, Etienne Stagg, Alcide Henry, J. E. Barry, R. E. Cunningham, Yves Sensat, and F. M. Bergeron.

Waseca, Minn. Members, E. C. Trowbridge and George Fallon.

Oneida, N. Y. President, Dr. George W. Miles.

Alton, Ill. President, Rev. James Osborn.

Washington Mills, N. Y. Trustee, Marinus S. Pearce; clerk, William F. Chapman.

Fostoria, O. Member, A. E. Mergenthaler.

Walworth, N. Y. Trustee, J. Reeves; clerk, J. D. Kipp.

Marengo, N. Y. Trustee, Edward Moran; clerk, A. J. Stevens.

Fergus Falls, Minn. President, M. T. M. Mahon; clerk, W. C. Lincoln.

Sodus Center, N. Y. Trustee, A. G. Towns; clerk, John T. Pierce.

Iron River, Mich. President, Arthur W. Quirt.

Albion, Mich. Members, Charles F. Austin and John G. Brown.

Springville, N. Y. President, Dr. M. N. Brooks; secretary W. A. Stanbro; Treasurer, F. O. Smith; clerk, Ira W. Smith.

Palmyra, N. Y. Members, C. A. Sessions, George S. Johnson and Thomas Chapman.

Presque Isle, Me. Member, Geo. F. Whidden.

Lock Haven, Pa. Member, J. A. Leitzel.

Lewiston, Me. Members, W. P. Lambert, F. M. Cummings, G. A. Callahan, L. G. Jordan, Dr. Bradford and Mr. Kennedy.

Marion, N. Y. Clerk, Mrs. Eva Radder.

Scottsville, N. Y. William Rafferty.

Canandaigua, N. Y. President, Hon. John Raines; vice president, T. H. Bennett; clerk, F. J. Sleght.

Hannibal, Mo. Treasurer, S. Thorne; secretary, J. W. Whaley.

Poseyville, Ind. Member, John B. Davis.

Alton, N. Y. Member, William Davenport.

Honey Falls, N. Y. President, C. A. Stuart; secretary, George H. Allen; treasurer, J. B. Martin.

Le Roy, N. Y. President, Dr. S. W. Skinner, secretary, Fred A. Steuber; treasurer, Frank Chaddock.

Homer, N. Y. President, Dr. L. W. Potter; clerk, E. L. Stone; treasurer, A. H. Bennett.

Port Jefferson, N. Y. President, James Dayton; clerk, G. Frank Boyles; treasurer, E. M. Davis.

Chelsea, Mich. Moderator, Harmon S. Holmes.

Quincy, Ill. Members, James Dickson, A. P. Walton, Henry E. Mulligan, W. N. Brown, H. F. Lummis, George W. Earhart, and C. W. Crewdson.

Herkimer, N. Y. Member, W. P. Mumson.



ISABELLA C. O'KEEFFE.  
Member Board of Education,  
Chicago, Ill.



## HE GOT EVEN.

"I got even with a competitor once, in a manner that he and his house will not forget the longest day they live," said an old time bookman recently.

"The question of adopting text books was up in an important city of the South," he continued. "A certain firm, who had nearly all the holdings in that city, was anxious to retain them. Bookmen flocked about lively to present the merits of their own commodity. I learned, however, that it was a useless case as far as my firm was concerned, and I stood ready to withdraw. I got an inside tip from the superintendent, however, that the firm now having the holdings would duplicate the price and conditions made by any other firm.

"What?" I exclaimed, "do you mean to tell me that Blank & Co. will duplicate prices and conditions made by any other firm?"

"That's what I said," replied the superintendent.

"Have you this proposition in writing?"

"Yes, here it is."

I looked over the proposition, and found its conditions as stated by the superintendent. I then sat down and formulated a document in which I agreed to present to the board a whole library free of charge if it adopted my books. My firm was in the general book publishing business as well and had a fine list of English classics, besides an abundance of books in all literary lines. I agreed to present ten pages for every one page. In other words, in case a school book was adopted having 100 pages I would present the board with library books to the amount of 1,000 pages.

My proposition was submitted, but my rival got the continuation of his books. He won the battle—but how?

A few days later his firm shipped a carload of books to that city which far outvalued the five year's adoption.

The rival agent wore a long face the next time he met me, and told me that he never would forgive me, for what he called "a dirty Irish trick."

"I first met W. J. Button, the present manager of the Werner School Book Co., in 1868," said an old time bookman. "Button was at that time, I believe, assistant superintendent of schools at Indianapolis. He took a position with Harper & Brothers who were just beginning to extend their trade to the West. L. E. Loveridge, now western representative of the J. E. Morse Co., was the manager for Harper's. Button was sent out to look after Michigan. And he did look after it. He secured adoption after adoption for the Harper list, which while not a large one was a good one. Button demonstrated his ability as a bookman. He remained with the Harpers for many years and until they sold out the school book business. Thereafter Button acted as manager for the Franklin Educational Co., dealing in scientific apparatus. Upon the organization of the Werner Company he became the Eastern manager, and when the Werner School Book Company was formed Button became the general manager. Button may be safely set down as an experienced and able bookman."

H. W. Fishel, who was with the firm of E. H. Butler & Co., is now with Sheldon & Co., with headquarters at Harrisburg, Pa.

Warren B. Stickney, representative of the C. A. Nichols Publishing Co., Springfield, Mass., committed suicide on the sixteenth ult., at Ann Arbor, Mich., his home. Mr. Stickney was at one time superintendent of schools at Chicopee, Mass.

Financial difficulties are assigned as the cause of his action.

Mr. Baker, of Sheldon & Co.'s New York Office, was prevented from attending to his duties through illness. He is, however, well and about again.

Charles Irwin Webster, formerly with the Prang Educational Company, and later with the Morse Company, is teaching school again in New Jersey.

The Pennsylvania agent for Maynard, Merrill & Co. is Mr. C. J. Dilcher, who resides at Allentown.

D. A. Fraser, Western manager of the Educational Publishing Co., with offices at Chicago, took his vacation last month. He visited New York and Boston.

H. M. Skinner, of the American Book Co., Chicago, has been confined to a hospital with illness for some weeks. He is able to be about again.

Ernest Milton Page, who represents Maynard, Merrill & Co. in the Southwest, has removed his headquarters from Waco to Dallas, Texas. It is in this state where an agent is obliged to make big jumps—making at times hundreds of miles in order to reach one little town.

Mr. D. C. Heath, the senior member of D. C. Heath & Co., is one of the hardest workers of the firm which is made up of the "big four" in the educational publishing line, the other three being C. H. Ames, W. E. Pulsifer, and W. S. Smyth "Baron Heath," as he is sometimes good naturedly called by his friends, when recently asked for a biographical sketch said: "My biography is exceedingly uninteresting. I was born early of 'poor and honest parents,' to whom I gave a great deal of trouble during my boyhood, and I have since then been trying to make the average all right by publishing a little better books than anybody else has got." Mr. Pulsifer is in charge of the New York end of the firm while W. S. Smyth has charge of the Chicago end.

James K. Burr, who represents the American Book Co. in Michigan, swears on a stack of bibles that he is in no way related to Aaron Burr. He entered—James K. we mean—the book field in the seventies and has been in it ever since. He was with Harper & Brothers at the time of the formation of the American Book Co. Mr. Burr's labors are confined almost wholly to the state of Michigan where he enjoys a wide acquaintance. Occasionally the company sends him on brief western trips.

Mr. Jerome E. Morse, of the Morse Company, educational publishers, New York, who was called by President McKinley into the naval service, is back at his desk again. Mr. Morse is a former naval officer, and when the Spanish-American war broke out was called into service. He responded promptly, although it meant a great sacrifice to his business interests.

Henry Barnes, of A. S. Barnes & Co., New York, was called to serve on the Grand Jury in that city last month. He was unwilling to forsake his familiar haunts for the close confinement of a jury room, but duty compelled.

Henry Holt, of Henry Holt & Co., New York, was on his vacation last month. He has returned improved in looks and strength.

In our next issue, we shall have some new book agency stories, written especially for the SCHOOL BOARD JOURNAL, by some of the brightest men in the field.

Charles Irving Webster, formerly with the Prang Educational Company, and later with the Morse Company, is teaching school again in New Jersey.

Mr. Dudley Olcott, son of J. M. Olcott, and manager of the New York store, is to be married on the 12th of October. Mr. J.

Olcott has five children, all of whom are married except Dudley. The last marriage in the family was that of the youngest daughter who entered wedlock about a year ago.

H. W. Fishel has sent us some interesting photographs of Pennsylvania school houses.

Walter T. Field, whose portrait appears on this page, first saw

the light of day in 1861. He took a college course at Dartmouth and Amherst, graduating from the latter college in class of '83. He went into the book business at once. For three years he was with S. C. Grigg's & Co., the old firm whose business is now merged with Scott, Foresman & Co. His labors here covered editorial work almost exclusively.

For four years thereafter he served with Harper & Brothers, and then for eight years with Ginn & Company. The last named firm he represented for five years in the active book field. During the past three years he has served as office manager. Mr. T. W. Gilson is the head of the Western department of Ginn & Co., and supervisor of agents.

Mr. Field is a painstaking, industrious business man who is splendidly adapted for the line of activity he has chosen.

William H. Mihills, the Iowa State Agent of Sheldon & Company, is a Badger boy, being the youngest son of the late U. D. Mihills, of Fond du Lac, Wis., so widely known as a pioneer in the lumber business of the Northwest.

Mr. Mihills followed the business of his father until 1895, when his special fitness for the school-book work was discovered, and he was employed by Sheldon & Company for one year, to assist Mr. C. E. Brown, the Wisconsin Agent.

So great was his success in Wisconsin, that he was promoted, at first opportunity, and placed in charge of the Company's large interests in Iowa.

Mr. Mihills now enjoys a large acquaintance in his territory, and is respected alike by his customers and his competitors, all of whom have only kindly words for their friend "Billy Mihills." Mr. Mihills has an attractive office, and has recently built a beautiful modern home at Cedar Rapids.

"For an all-around agent in educational lines," said a bookman recently, "I would recommend Jasper Sipes, of Oklahoma. That fellow sells school journals as well as school desks and school books. He has recently added gasoline engines to his repertoire. He stumps around Oklahoma for subscribers and occasionally jumps on a train, comes to Chicago and scoops in a little advertising for a change. Jasper is a good fellow. We all like him. He enjoys a good story and can tell one."

"The Penmanship Problem in Education," a paper read by H. W. Ellsworth, of New York city, at the N. E. A. meeting, Washington, D. C., last July, has been issued in pamphlet form.

Rev. T. D. Bass, who ran the Union Teachers' Agency at Saltsburg, Pa., for a time, left for parts unknown. His creditors number quite a few.



WALTER T. FIELD,  
With Ginn & Company,  
Chicago, Ill.



W. H. MIHILLS,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



C. H. CONGDON,  
Agent Scott, Foresman & Co.,  
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Principals.

## ANNOUNCEMENT.

### Special Lecture Courses.

In addition to the Special Lecture Courses annually given by the Chicago Kindergarten College, several new courses have been added for the coming season. These courses will be full of vital interest not only to post-graduate kindergartners and mothers, but to all women who are seeking more insight into the study of "child nature," as well as to those who wish to broaden their culture along lines in which they can make practical application in their every-day life of all knowledge and insight acquired.

Credit will be given for all studies taken. This will enable those who may wish hereafter to enter the Students' or Mothers' Department of the College as regular students, to save some time in completing their course.

The following is a partial list of the special courses which are to be given throughout the year

### Fröbel's Philosophy

A course of four lectures on Fröbel's Philosophy by Susan E. Blow, translator of *Fröbel's Mother Play Songs*. These lectures will give deep insight into the philosophy of all education and a keen sympathy with the true kindergarten methods as based on philosophical principles. This course will begin October 4 at 4:15 P. M.

### Life, Times and Writings of Fröbel

A course of lectures on the Life, Times and Writings of Frederick Fröbel by Denton J. Snider. These lectures will not only correlate all the writings of the greatest of modern educators, but will also show Fröbel's relationship to the greatest philosophical and literary movement of modern times, giving added significance to the study of his theories of education by showing what were his environments and who were his contemporaries. This course will consist of ten lectures, beginning Monday, September 26, at 2:30 P. M.

### Psychology of Gifts.

A course of lectures on the Psychology of Fröbel's gifts for the Kindergarten by Susan E. Blow, author of *Symbolic Education*; Elizabeth Harrison, author of the *Study of Child Nature*, now in its sixteenth edition, and Denton J. Snider, author of a *Commentary on Fröbel's Mother Play Songs*. These lectures will be given with special reference to the deeper meaning of the gifts and the correcting of certain faults in the use of the same. Their educational value will be compared with that of materials now being introduced into some kindergartens and primary schools. This course will consist of ten lectures, beginning Thursday, September 22, at 2:30 P. M.

### Philosophy of Ethics

A course on the Philosophy of Ethics by Denton J. Snider, author of *Psychology and Phychosis* and *The Will and Its World*. These lectures will be given with special reference to the understanding of the development of will power. There will be practical applications of the same to the training of the child in self-control and moral responsibility. This course will consist of ten lectures, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, at 2:30 P. M., beginning September 20.

### Gymnastics

A course of lessons in Swedish Gymnastics, as adopted and taught by the late famous Baron Posse of Sweden. These lessons will be given by Minnie Sherman of the Posse Gymnasium. This course will include a thorough study of the muscles of the human body and a training in the development of the same. The classes will necessarily be limited, as attention is given to the development needed by each individual student. Examination is made from time to time to test the student's growth and vary her exercises according to her needs. Classes, or groups may be organized for hours most convenient for each. Miss Sherman's past success in building up weak and feeble constitutions is sufficient guaranty for the value of this work.

### Philosophy of Art

A course of ten lectures on the Interpretation of Architecture by Denton J. Snider. This course will include a study of the building instinct common to all children, as shown in the race development, beginning with the earliest historic movements and coming down to the ethical significance of the tall buildings of Chicago. This course will begin October 18 at 2:30.

### Dante

A course of lectures on Dante by Denton J. Snider, author of the *Commentaries on the Inferno, the Purgatorio, and the Paradiso*. These lectures will give a comprehensive review of the great master poet of the religious world, presenting clearly the moral nature of man as it is expressed in the symbols of Art. Dante has for six hundred years been the great

source of artistic and literary culture of Christendom and is of special value to those who realize that the greatest truths of life can only be presented to the child in symbolic form. They will be especially helpful to Sunday school workers and writers of children's stories. This course will consist of ten lectures, beginning October 18, at 3:30 P. M.

### Physiology

This course of six lectures will be given by Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson. These lectures will include a valuable outline of the laws of hygiene that apply to the school room, together with several practical talks to the class concerning the care of the body, what to do in case of accidents, the symptoms of contagious diseases in children. This course will begin October 6 at 2:30.

### Philosophy of History

A course of ten lectures on the Philosophy of History, showing how the race passed out of the unconscious, or prehistoric state, into the conscious or historic state, and how the child passes through a similar transition from the poetic or mythical into the prosaic or reflective stage of development. This course will begin October 19 at 2:30.

### Imaginative Literature

This course of ten lectures on Imaginative Literature will include a review of the essential characteristics of great literature and will show how the same may be given to the child in form of anecdote, fable, myth and fairy tale. This course will begin November 1 at 2:30.

### Program

A course of conferences between the Directors of the kindergartens, under the supervision of the college, and all mothers interested in kindergarten work. These conferences will be under the direction of Elizabeth Harrison, and will give much insight into the true significance of the kindergarten, as daily problems will be brought forward and discussed, and the outlines of the year's work, as varied to suit the needs of the different groups of children, will be compared. This course will begin early in January.

### History of Pedagogy

A course of ten lectures on the History of Pedagogy by Mrs. Ruth Morris Kersey. This course of lectures will include a philosophical review of the education of the primitive races, the Hebrew, Greek and Roman ideas of education, and end with a review of the educational advance made in modern times.

### Educational Reformers

This course of ten lectures will be given by Mrs. Ruth Morris Kersey. These lectures will give the gradual growth of thought on the subject of education as it has advanced from the time of Comenius to the present day.

### Physiological-psychology

This course of four lectures will be given by Jean Carpenter. These lectures will give a general outline of the results obtained thus far from the laboratory work of some of the leading physiological-psychologists, and a correlating of the same with the psychological insight shown by Fröbel, and re-emphasized by the rational psychologists of today.

### Primary Methods

This course of twenty lectures will be given by Mrs. Ruth Morris Kersey and Elizabeth Harrison. The course will include the philosophical and psychological points which the primary school has in common with the kindergartens, and will give some of the ways in which the materials of the kindergarten may be used in the primary grades, without hampering the increasing growth of the child, as is now too often done where kindergarten gifts and occupations are used for older children.

### Correlation of Studies

This course of ten lectures will be given by Mrs. Ruth Morris Kersey. These lectures will show how to correlate the studies given with the stage of the child's development rather than with other studies, as the child's needs are the center of all right school work. They will be of much value to all thoughtful teachers.

### Talks on Music

Denton J. Snider will give a series of talks on music to aid in the interpretation of the music of the Thomas Orchestra. This course will be free to all interested.

### Mothers Play Songs

An advanced course of ten lectures in Fröbel's Mother Play Songs by Jean Carpenter. This course will include the Study of the Race Consciousness of Right and Wrong as shown by the "Light Songs." The philosophical explanation of evil as shown by the Shadow Songs. How to inspire the child with right Ideals, illustrated by the Songs of the Five Knights; and the right development of the child's conscience as explained by Fröbel in the succeeding songs.

Each course of ten lectures \$2.50.

For Curriculums or further particulars address

CHICAGO KINDERGARTEN COLLEGE,

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## THE YOUNG QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS.

On August 31, 1898, a young girl in Holland celebrated her eighteenth birthday. Six days later, in royal robes, seated on a throne erected in the "Nieuwe Kerk," in Amsterdam, she took the oath which made her Queen of the Netherlands. Not since the coronation of Queen Victoria of England, sixty years ago, has a young girl come to a throne; and as Victoria was, so is Wilhelmina, a charming, brilliant and thoroughly feminine woman, and with great possibilities in prospect, although her kingdom is so much smaller. Her full name is Wilhelmina Helena Paulina Maria. The hereditary name, Wilhelmina, was given to her, as she comes of a long line of Williams, or Wilhelms, in direct descent from William of Nassau. She is the daughter



QUEEN WILHELMINA OF HOLLAND

of William III., King of the Netherlands, who died November 23, 1890, and Emma, Princess of Waldeck and Pyrmont.

In appearance, according to Edith Lawrence, who describes the installation in *Harper's Bazar* for September 10, the young Queen is most pleasing. She has fair hair—a light brown—blue eyes, and a sweet, laughing expression. She is neither tall nor slender as has been said, but is *petite*, with a well-rounded shapely figure. Her complexion is beautiful. She loves to be well dressed, although up to the present time she has had little opportunity of indulging herself in fine clothes and costly raiment. To wish to look her best is any woman's privilege, may she be queen or peasant maid.

Logansport, Ind. A new Smith Premier Type-writer has been installed in the high school.

Everton, Mo. The board of education has purchased a new Smith Premier typewriter for use in the high school here.

## THE PONY EXPRESS.

W. F. Bailey contributes to the October Century an article on "The Pony Express," between St. Joseph and San Francisco. Mr. Bailey says:

At first the schedule was fixed at ten days, an average of eight miles an hour from start to finish. This was cut down to eight days, requiring an average speed of ten miles. The quickest trip was made in carrying President Lincoln's inaugural address, which was done in seven days and seventeen hours, an average speed of 10.7 miles per hour, the fastest time of any one rider being 120 miles, from Smith's Creek to Fort Churchill, by "Pony Bob," in eight hours and ten minutes, or 14.7 miles per hour. Considering the distance and difficulties encountered, such as hostile Indians, road agents, floods, and snow-storms, and accidents to horses and riders, the schedule was maintained to an astonishing degree. The service created the greatest enthusiasm not only among the employes, but also in the ranks of stage employees, freighters and residents along the route. To aid a "pony" in difficulty was a privilege, and woe be to the man who would so much as throw a stone in the way.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have just published a book which would be of great interest to all teachers, particularly of the lower grades. It is entitled *The Hiawatha Primer*, and it is written by Miss Florence Holbrook, principal of the Forestville School, Chicago.

The *Hiawatha Primer* contains 139 pages of reading text, 8 full-page colored illustrations, 4 full-page black and white illustrations, and 65 part-page illustrations in black and white or silhouette; these illustrations having been made especially for this book under the direction of the author. It is equipped with reading and writing lessons in the latest vertical script, a vocabulary, and many other special features. Bound in cloth, with specially designed cover stamp, price, 40 cents.

The *Hiawatha Primer* is designed to be the child's first book in reading, and will be found entirely practical for such use. Its contents have been thoroughly tested in actual class-room work, and it has been carefully graded to minimize the difficulties of the first steps in reading. It is believed that this book will be welcomed by progressive teachers as marking a distinct advance in the methods and practice of teaching primary reading.

## ANGER IS AN UNREALITY OF WAR.

Often during the day the well-known expression "A shot fired in anger" recurred to my mind, and it seemed strangely inapposite. I saw many thousand shots fired during the campaign but not one "in anger." Most men were anxious, many were excited, and not a few afraid, but however hard the fight or however great the losses they never seemed to be angry—that is with the enemy—even when their best friends were killed. Anger, in the popular sense is one of the unrealities of war.—From "The Regulars at El Caney," by CAPT. A. H. LEE, R. A., British Naval Attaché, in the October *Scribner's*.

A bitter war is being waged between Col. Isaac D. Smead, of Toledo, and the Colton-Smead Furnace and Foundry Co. The latter concern are the successors to the Smead Foundry and now own most of the patterns for the Smead heating and ventilating system. We shall say more about this in our next number.

## SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT.

Shenandoah, Ia. Two Smith Premier typewriters have been added recently to the equipment of the western normal college.

Milwaukee, Wis. The equipment of McDonald's Collegiate Institute has been increased by the addition of five Smith Premier machines.

New Philadelphia, O. The board of education has purchased a Smith Premier machine for use in the public schools.

Whitinsville, Mass. A Smith Premier typewriter has been purchased for use in the high school.

Holyoke, Mass. The school committee has added seven Smith Premier typewriters to the high school equipment.

Providence, R. I. Two Smith Premier machines have been purchased for use in the new high school here.

Hingham, Mass. The school committee has bought two Smith Premier machines to use for educational purposes in the high school.

Princeton, Ill. Two Smith Premier machines have been purchased for use in the high school.

Chicago, Ill. The board of education recently purchased a new Smith Premier machine for use in one of the public schools, and one Smith Premier has been added to the equipment of the Sisters of Providence school.

Mount Vernon, O. The board of education has purchased two Smith Premier machines for use in the high school.

Marion, Ind. A new Smith Premier has been added to the equipment of the Indiana normal college.

Provo City, Utah. Seven Smith Premier machines have been added to the equipment of the Brigham Young academy for educational purposes.

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GOVERNOR ROBERT L. TAYLOR.

The present governor of Tennessee has been twice governor before. He is a democrat through and through. Years ago, when hardly old enough to enter congress, he defeated Hon. A. H. Pettibone, in a district which was largely republican. Pettibone had been in congress and it was a great surprise to democrats as well as republicans when it was known that the young man, Robert Taylor, had defeated him.



HON. ROBERT L. TAYLOR.

Robert L. Taylor was born in the County of Carter, East Tennessee, about forty years ago. His father was the Rev. N. G. Taylor, a prominent Methodist preacher, who had been in congress and also had occupied other federal positions. Robert Taylor is the most popular man in the state with the people, but has never had popularity with the politicians. In his first race for governor he did not have the sympathy or active support of a single prominent politician in the state, and with the exception of the Johnson City "Comet," there was not a newspaper in the state advocating his nomination. The "Comet" was partly owned by him, or rather, the paper owned him and his partner.

When Mr. Cleveland was elected president the first time, he appointed Taylor pension agent, with headquarters at Knoxville. This appointment was largely due to the excellent work done by Mr. Taylor as elector for the state at large for the Cleveland ticket. Governor Taylor is out of politics for the present, and if he should consult his own happiness and his pocket book, he will remain out. As a popular lecturer he has no equal; and by means of his lecturing, he can easily accumulate a fortune. By nature, he is very sympathetic, and being governor, he was called upon so frequently that the demands kept him poor. Being in the prime of life, and

with rare gifts of oratory, there is no danger that the poor-house will have him as an inmate. He has a lovely wife, and with their five children there is no happier household in Tennessee.

SCHOOL SESSIONS.

Baltimore, Md. The Business Men's Association has protested strongly against the school board's action in introducing the one session plan in the schools.

Erie, Pa. The daily sessions of the schools are as follows: First year classes, primary grades, from 9 a. m. to 11:30 a. m., and 1:30 p. m. to 3:30 p. m.; balance of primary grades from 9 a. m. to 12 m., and from 1:30 to 3:30 p. m.; Grammar grades from 9 a. m. to 12 m., and from 1:30 p. m. to 4 p. m. One continuous session is held in the high school beginning at 8:10 a. m. and closing at 1 p. m.

Appleton, Wis. Morning school session opens at 9 o'clock and closes at 12 o'clock. Recess from 10:30 to 10:45; afternoon session opens at 1:30 o'clock and closes at 4 o'clock. Recess from 2:45 to 3 o'clock.

Allentown, Pa. The board has fixed the high school hours as follows: From 8:30 to 11:15 a. m., and 1 to 3:45 p. m.

SPANISH IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Louisville, Ky. The board is considering a resolution which provides for the introduction of Spanish into the high school.

Chicago. President W. R. Harper announces that the scope of instruction in the Spanish language at the University of Chicago will be enlarged, the controlling motive for the increased study being the prospect of more intimate relations with the former Spanish colonies.

Atlanta, Ga. President Hoke Smith, of the board of education, proposes that French be dropped from the course of study for the girl's school and

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German substituted; that Spanish be taught in the boys' high school, the choice between Greek and to be left with the pupil.

Chicago, Ill. Supt. Andrews favors adding the study of Spanish to the school curriculum. His idea is that Spanish, German, and French should be taught only in two or three of the high schools, students desiring instruction in those languages to attend these schools.



F. W. ATKINS, President Board of Education, Guard, Kansas.

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FROM ROSE C. SWART.

Inspector of Practice Teaching at State Normal School, Oshkosh, Wis., and President of the Wisconsin Teachers' Association.

Mrs. Burton's "Four American Patriots," a book for young Americans, is received. I want to thank you for it, and to say that I think it is written in an admirable style for young children. The stories are told in a bright, childlike way, and even an affair of state is made interesting and intelligible. I have enjoyed reading the book myself. Books of this kind serve a great end, and make the children of the land acquainted with the great men who have made it what it is. Such reading must cause even children to understand that great nations and institutions have to be made, that they do not come of themselves; and this understanding must create a sense of responsibility that is one of the foundations of good citizenship.

(Signed) ROSE C. SWART.

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### Heating & Ventilating.

Chicago, Ill. The Jefferson high school is to be equipped with a steam heating plant. Contract awarded to Thomas & Smith.

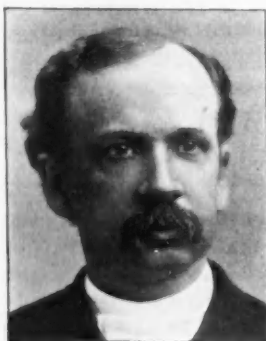
La Pier, Mich. Stephen D. Bryce, of the Bryce Furnace Co., heating and ventilating engineers, Toledo, O., superintended the putting in of the heating apparatus for the new school building.

Marion, O. The contract for heating and ventilating the Davids street school awarded to the American Foundry and Furnace Co., of Toledo.

Columbus, O. The following firms bid on the south high school heating contract: Joseph King & Co., the American Foundry and Furnace Co., the Vogelgesang Furnace Co., and the Bryce Heating and Ventilating Co.

The old firm of Isaac D. Smead & Co. has been changed into The Smead Heating, Lighting & Construction Company. Col. Smead, who has for years been the directing force of the former concern, is managing the new company. This company engages in the building of city heating and lighting plants on the Yaryan patents. The company has already completed some important contracts and is gradually extending its business.

The Roberts Heating & Ventilating Co. are agents for the Peck-Williamson Heating & Ventilating Co., of Cincinnati, for the Northwestern territory, comprising the states of Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and Northern Michigan. The company has its office and warehouse at No. 213 South Third Street, Minneapolis, Minn., where they carry a full stock of the "Favorite" furnaces. This company also has the agency for the Peck-Williamson improved system of heating, ventilation and



REV. J. M. DURRELL,  
Member Board of Education,  
Nashua, N. H.

Sanitaries for public buildings, and are building up a nice business in the above territory.

Clarkville, Pa. The Pittsburg Heating & Ventilating Co. secured the heating and ventilating contract for the new school building.

Omaha, Neb. To the Peck-Williamson Heating and Ventilating Co., of Cincinnati, O., was awarded the contract for heating and ventilating the new high school building.

Salt Lake City, Utah. The heating and ventilating equipment of the new high school building was done by the P. J. Moran & Co.

Utica, N. Y. Sanitary improvements have been made in the Lansing and James Street schools by the Peck-Williamson Heating and Ventilating Co., of Cincinnati, O.

Cincinnati, O. The board of education has contracted with the Peck-Williamson Heating and Ventilating Company for heating, ventilating and sanitary apparatus for three large new school buildings.

Stillwater, Minn. The board of education has entered into a contract with the American Warming & Ventilating Co., of Chicago, for a heating apparatus for the Lincoln school.

Rockford, Ill. In the Turner school has been installed the Johnson Temperature Controlling System.

Farentum, Pa. The Sun Heating & Power Co. secured a third ward school heating contract.

Springfield, Mass. The furnaces in the Vernon street school were put in by the Fuller & Warren Company of Boston.

Paterson, Pa. The contract for heating and ventilating the new public school awarded to McIlvain, Unkefer & Co., of Pittsburg, Pa.

Columbus. For heating and ventilating the new high school building the Peck-Williamson Company, of Cincinnati, O., was the successful bidder, and it was given the contract.

### School Furniture.

The new school in Owosso, Mich., is to be seated with desks made by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. They examined the different styles of desks made and were very much taken with the ball bearing hinge feature of the Grand Rapids desk.

The school board of Alma, Mich., have just placed another order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. Last year they ordered desks from that company, and so well pleased were they with those in use that in placing their order this year no other style of school desk was considered.

The school board of Albion, Mich., have just placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for the combination adjustable school desks. They are greatly interested in the subject of adjustable desks, and if these desks are a success they will in all probability in another year place an order for a large number.

The school board of Paterson, N. J., continue to be pleased with the desks in use in their schools, manufactured by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. and in evidence of their satisfaction have placed another large order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for desks.

The board of education of West Superior, Wis., have just placed an order for 200 desks with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. About one half of these desk will be ball bearing, the remaining combination adjustable desks. The board is well acquainted with the high character of desks made by the Grand Rapids Company, but as yet have never tried any adjustable desks. They are greatly interested in the subject, and if these adjustable desks come up to expectations they will place a large order for desks of this kind another year.

## A Plant Feeds

on its seed till it grows a root that can forage for it. The process of sprouting changes the hard seed into soluble, digestible food. . . . . Malting is sprouting. Malt Extract is plant food transformed into human food made easy of digestion.

## Pabst... Malt Extract

The "Best" Tonic

is the purest and most nourishing of malt extracts, the most strengthening and digestible of food.

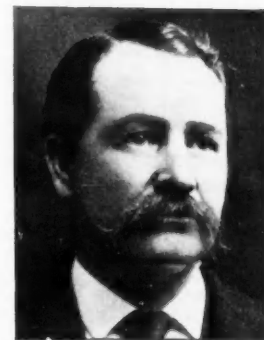
Sold by all Druggists at 25c a Bottle, or \$2.50 Per Dozen.

The school board of Pewaukee, Wis., have just placed a nice order for school desks and tablet settees with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co.

The Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. have just received a large order for ball bearing school desks from Johnstown, Pa.


The board of education of St. Louis, Mo., are delighted with the combination adjustable desks furnished them by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. They arrived in good shape, and so simple yet effective in their working as to make them very popular with everyone. Adjustable desks have doubtless come to stay, as they are giving unbounded satisfaction wherever used and the style made by the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. appears to excell all others in every way.

The parochial school of St. Mary's Church, Erie, Pa., have just placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. This makes several orders that this school has placed with the Grand Rapids Company, and speaks volumes for the goods shipped by that concern.



W. A. HACKNEY,  
Sec'y Board of Education,  
Lincoln, Neb.

## STERLING



**STERLING  
CYCLE  
WORKS,**

**Kenosha, Wis.**

Art Catalogue  
waiting your re-  
quest for it.

## BICYCLES

### TRANSLATIONS.

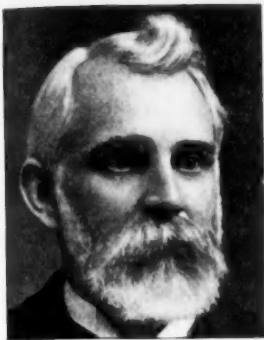
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**HAMILTON, LOCKE AND CLARK'S.**  
Good Type—Well Printed—Fine Paper—  
Half-Leather Binding—Cloth Sides—Price  
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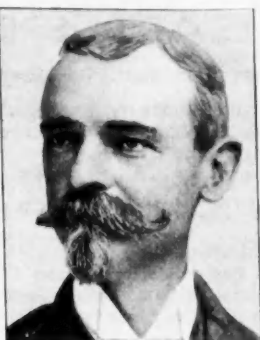
Catalogue free—send for one.

DAVID McKAY, Publisher, 1022 Market St., Philadelphia.





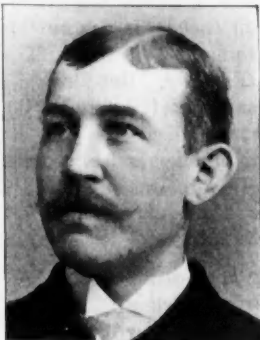
A. C. DOWSE,  
Mem. Board of Education,  
Boston, Mass.



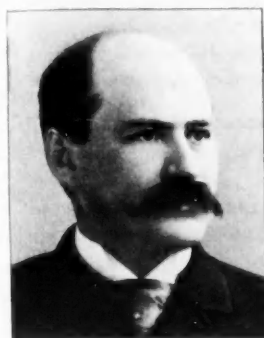
JAS. H. JARMAN,  
Chm. Board of Education,  
Hartford, Conn.



FRED W. COSTER,  
Mem. Board of Education,  
Hutchison, Kan.



ADOLPH SCHLEICHER,  
Mem. Board of Education,  
W. Hoboken, N. J.



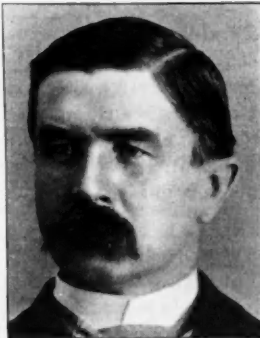
CARROLL ROBBINS,  
Pres. Board of Education,  
Trenton, N. J.



FRED L. BATES,  
Pres. Board of Education,  
Lima, O.



S. E. WEYBRIGHT,  
Mem. Board of Education,  
Whitney, Ind.



WELLINGTON RECORD,  
Mem. Board of Education,  
Wollston, Mass.

## ADOPTED AT COLUMBUS, O.

The "American and British Authors," by Frank V. Irish, was recently unanimously adopted at Columbus, O. The book has met with phenomenal success. Here is what Superintendent L. H. Jones of Cleveland, O., says: "I have given three sittings to the careful examination of your 'American and British Authors,' becoming more and more interested with each added study. I commend your selections and your carefully written sketches of authors; but more than all else the spirit of love for the best in literature which you seem to have fairly breathed into the work from beginning to end. It is the spirit of the book lover but something more,—a feeling that seems to go beyond and attach itself to the writer whose life blood comes through his work. Your book will do much for enlightenment, but more for the ethical and esthetical development of its readers. 'American and

British Authors' seems to me admirably adapted to use as a manual in upper grammar grades and in high schools. Its use will certainly develop a love for the best that has been written in English."

## SPANISH INSTRUCTOR.

Foreseeing the demand for a knowledge of the Spanish language Messrs. Isaac Pitman & Sons, the enterprising publishers of New York City, are issuing in weekly parts, "Pitman's Practical Spanish Instructor," for beginners and advanced students. The Spanish text, embodying the latest and most successful method of learning Spanish, will

be accompanied by literal, full, or annotated translations and imitate pronunciation. This interesting work will undoubtedly enjoy a wide popularity, as does "Pitman's Practical French and German Instructors," which are companion works to the above. A special feature of this Spanish work will be the conversational exercises for tourists and others as well as commercial terms and business letters. Seeing there is now a question as to the advisability of introducing Spanish into the public schools as a study, this work will be much sought after. This firm have also issued an adaption of the Isaac Pitman shorthand to the Spanish language that is meeting with much favor.

The school board of Fredericktown, Pa., have placed an order with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co. for 100 of their ball bearing school desks.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.  
LUCAS COUNTY,

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this sixth day of December, A. D. 1886.

SEAL

A. W. GLEASON,  
Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75 cents.

The school board of Poplar Bluff, Mo., have placed their order for desks with the Grand Rapids School Furniture Co.

BOOKS:—Write for my new catalogue. Any book supplied. Address, L. L. Lee, Box 290, Luther, Ind.

## If You Want to Make Money

write R. RYSE, 34 Jackson Place, Indianapolis, Ind., where you can get the newest and best school specialties on the market. What an agent wants is a seller. I have them. Ryse's New Temperance Chart, 4x6 feet in size, 37 plates printed in nine colors, the finest ever produced.

Historical Chart brings all events up to surrender of Santiago, giving the history of the United States in a nut shell, and pictures all principal events and noted persons.

Facsimile of Declaration of Independence, as originally written by Thos. Jefferson with a goose quill pen, with all erasures, etc., surmounted by our flag in bright colors, 3 feet 6 inches by 7 feet, 200 sold by one agent in five days.

Exclusive territory given and the right kind of prices made by addressing as above. No samples sent free.

## THE PRANG New Courses

### The Prang Elementary Course in Art Instruction.

Books which put the most progressive ideas on Elementary Art Teaching into practical and helpful form so that they can be successfully worked out under ordinary school conditions; books which embody all the educational and artistic advantages, whose possibility has come through the gradual development of the work in the schools — a development chiefly due to the trained Drawing Supervisors of the country.

### In a Twelve-Book Series,

Furnishing two books a year for Third to Eighth Grades inclusive. (First Six Books and Preliminary Manual ready August, 1897.)

### In a Six-Book Series,

Furnishing one book a year for Third to Eighth Grades inclusive. (First Three Books and Preliminary Manual ready August, 1897.)

### The Prang Course in Drawing for Graded Schools.

A condensed course in drawing for Third to Eighth Grades inclusive, consisting of

Six Books for Pupils, and  
One Manual for Teachers.

These Books have been prepared especially to meet the needs of towns where the time allowed for Drawing is closely limited, or where the help of a Supervisor of Drawing cannot be had, yet where there is a desire to put the work on the plane of the best in its line. They condense and simplify the most advanced thought and practice in Drawing and Color Work, and present only such lessons as can be worked out in brief time with limited materials and with little professional assistance and direction. (Ready August, 1897.)

### The Prang Course in Drawing for Ungraded Schools.

A course which makes it possible for teachers of Ungraded Schools to give their pupils the same advantages in Drawing that are to be enjoyed in the largest City Schools, through the use of this Special Edition of the Prang course condensed into

One Drawing Book for Pupils, and  
One Manual for Teachers.

These Books are thoroughly practical, artistic and up to date in both subjects and methods, and are admirably adapted to the Ungraded Schools of any community. (Ready July, 1897.)

### The Prang Primary Course.

For First and Second Years as now published, is a preparation for all the New Courses above described.

For fuller information and for prices address

THE PRANG EDUCATIONAL CO.,

BOSTON.

NEW YORK.

CHICAGO,  
151 Wabash Ave.

# DYSPEPSIA

**Horsford's Acid Phosphate**  
reaches various forms of  
**Dyspepsia** that no other  
medicine seems to touch.  
It assists the weakened  
stomach, and makes the  
process of digestion natural  
and easy. **Pleasant to  
take.**

For sale by all Druggists.



YOUNG PROFESSOR: My bride is very handsome.  
It is a pity she speaks such broken English.  
TEACHER: Is she a foreigner?  
YOUNG PROFESSOR: No, she stammers.

LODGER (to next roomer): Gracious! How much  
longer will this racket in your room continue?  
Why don't you go to sleep?

GERMAN STUDENT (with heavy articulation):  
Man, I have (hic) been looking for my bed this  
half hour.

PRIMARUS: I have just learned that Prof. Pleas-  
ant, the astrologist, is paying his attentions to a  
celebrated actress.

SECUNDUS: Very appropriate. Fond of stars.

SERVANT: Please sir, I have nothing more to do;  
may I go out?

PROFESSOR: What! nothing more to do. Review  
your work; review it.

PHYSICIAN: What  
you need is more  
exercise.

PATIENT: But my  
dear doctor! I am the  
truant officer, and get  
too much exercise.

PHYSICIAN: Then  
become a school house  
janitor.

PROFESSOR OF CHEM-  
ISTRY (to class): The  
experiment which I  
am about to perform  
is extremely danger-  
ous. But I assume  
that you are all provided with accident policies.

## FOREIGN HUMOR.

Aus dem Gramen.

Professor: „Herr Candidat geben Sie mir einmal eine  
Definition über „zwei Atmosphären!“

Candidat: „Zwei Atmosphären erhält man, wenn  
rechts von uns eine Kasebude und links ein Hütungs-  
brater ist!“

Entre sportsmen.

Vous faites de la bicyclette?

Non, mais je pratique tous les jours l'automobile.

C'est encore plus chic. Vous en avez une à vous?

Pas précisément... Je prends chaque matin le  
tramway!

Darum.

Lehrer: „Deine Additionen sind immer falsch, Sam-  
uel. Siehst du Dir Niemand zu Hause nach?“

„Ja, mein Papa!“

„Was ist Dein Papa?“ — „Kellner.“

Fureurs d'un mari.

Ma femme, je la traite de tout. Je la couvre  
d'injures, de malédictions, rien ne lui fait.

Elle a bon caractère?

Non... Elle est sourde!

Ein sonderbares Lob.

„Joseph, was hat Kain mit seinem Bruder Abel? Nun,  
vielleicht weißt du es, Karl? Auch nicht? Na, aber der  
Michel wird's wissen?“

Michel: „Kain hat seinen Bruder Abel auf das Feld  
gelockt und ihn dort erschlagen.“

Lehrer: „Das war brav!“

Une estimable bourgeoise rend visite à une amie:  
Il me semble que vous avez changé de bonne?  
Il a bien fallu. Elle avait pour les militaires de  
toute sorte un penchant cynique.

Vous auriez dû vous douter, ma chère.

Comment cela?

Elle avait vraiment trop le nez en trompette.

Ein gutes Gedächtnis.

„Was machst Du denn für ein trübseliges Gesicht,  
Echlauch?“ — „Ach, mein Alter hat wieder mal geschrieben,  
er verlangt, daß ich endlich mein Gramen machen soll.“  
— „Run, und Du?“ — „Ich sitz' in der größten Klemme  
und weiß nicht, was ich vor sechs Jahren mit dem Alten  
abgemacht hab', ob ich Lura studiren sollt'—oder Med-  
icin!“

He Had Him There.

„Now,” said the professor, “supposing that by  
some convulsion of nature portions of the earth  
now under water should become dry land; what  
would be the most prominent characteristic of the  
landscape?”

And the freshman who was trying to suppress a  
yawn, replied: “Spanish warships.”

YOUNG PROFESSOR (absentmindedly): Whom did  
I want to speak to to-day?

YOUNG LADY: Perhaps to mamma.

# 700 KINDS OF LEAD PENCILS.

The Dixon Company make about 700 kinds of lead pencils.

Pencils of Many Shapes,  
Pencils of Many Qualities.  
Pencils for Drawing.  
Pencils for All Purposes.

DIXON'S AMERICAN GRAPHITE PENCILS

Are standard and unequalled for smooth, tough leads.  
All schools are better schools when Dixon's pencils  
are used, as better work can be done as there is far less  
irritation of nerves. For further information, address

JOSEPH DIXON CRUCIBLE CO., JERSEY CITY, N. J.

## Evidence.

“Why, sir,” said the geologist, “the ground you  
walk on was once under water.”

“Well, replied the friend, who is nothing if not  
patriotic, “it simply goes to show you can't hold  
America down.”

## Monosyllable.

“He gave me a dictionary of words of one syllable.”

“How funny.”

“Oh, I don't know. He wanted me to learn to  
say ‘Yes.’”

A stern professor in a Chicago preparatory  
school for girls sat at his desk, trying to unravel a  
knotty problem, when a fluffy-haired miss of six-  
teen approached. “Please sir,” she began, in a  
tremulous voice, will you grant me permission to go  
out riding with my brother this afternoon?” The  
old man had not forgotten the days of his youth,  
and, looking over his spectacles, he slowly said: “So  
you want to go out riding with your brother, do  
you? By the way, is this brother of yours any  
relation to you?”

Host (to waiter): John, the bill of fare is full of  
errors to-day.

JOHN: No harm, our regular guest, the Professor,  
will mark all corrections.

PHYSICIAN: His illness is of no consequence.  
Your husband is fully able to concentrate his mind.

PROFESSOR'S WIFE: It is just this that alarms  
me.



PROFESSOR (to Arabella's little sister): How often  
does a human being get teeth?

LITTLE SISTER: Gets teeth twice, and the third  
time a set of teeth.

**BENJ. H. SANBORN & CO.**  
PUBLISHERS, BOSTON.

The Students' Series of Latin Classics,  
54 Books.

An English Series in Preparation.

**Maynard, Merrill & Co.,**  
H. I. SMITH, 14 Ashburton Place,  
BOSTON.

Publishers of School Books. Catalogue Free.  
29-33 E. 19th St., N. Y. Send for it.  
J. D. WILLIAMS, 203-206 Michigan Ave.,  
CHICAGO.



## NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

Hartford, Conn. Contract for a \$52,000 school let.

Woodbury, Conn. The plans of Architect W. E. Griggs, Waterbury, Conn., have been accepted for a new school house. To be 45 x 57 feet and two stories.

Waterbury, Conn. Architect T. B. Peck has plans for a twelve-room school house.

Monmouth, Ill. A new \$25,000 school.

Chicago, Ill. Architects Burtar & Gossman have prepared plans for an eight-room school building.

Lincoln, Ill. A new high school building.

Peoria, Ill. Plans are being prepared for a new twelve-room public school to be built next summer at a cost of \$40,000.

Valparaiso, Ind. Plans for a new \$15,000 school have been accepted.

East Elkport, Ia. Volga township is to build a new school house.

Cooper, Ia. Work on the new school buildings is progressing slowly.

Decorah, Ia. Bids have been asked for erecting new school.

Liberty Centre. A school house is in the course of erection.

Salina, Kans. An election is soon to be held to vote on the proposition of issuing \$10,000 of bonds for the purpose of erecting a new school house.

Cumberland, Md. Three new schools are to be erected in the near future.

Boston, Mass. A new primary school is to be erected at Forest Hill.

Pittsfield, Mass. Architects Page & Hayes.

Westfield, Mass. Plans for a new school to be erected here.

Hancock, Mich. A Finish college is to be erected here.

Trenton, Mich. The taxpayers are discussing the question of building a new school house.

Harris, Minn. A new school building.

Worthington, Minn. Write D. V. Lees, clerk, regarding new school house.

Motley, Minn. Bids for erecting new school have been received.

Camden, N. J. Architect Thos. Stephen has prepared plans for a new high school.

Newark, N. J. Architect Alfred Peter has prepared plans for a new school on Market street, near Ferry street. To be 70 x 100 feet and three stories.

New Brunswick, N. J. Contract to erect the new French awarded. Geo. K. Parsell, architect.

Huntington, N. Y. It is contemplated to erect a new \$20,000 school.

Port Jervis, N. Y. The board of education is to erect a new eleven-room school. To be 71 x 100 feet and three stories.

Charlton, N. Y. A new \$20,000 school building.

Whitehall, N. Y. Contract for the erection of new school awards.

Bisbee, N. D. A new school.

Buffalo, N. Y. A twelve-room addition is being made to school number 9.

Ojata, N. D. Write H. D. Courtney, clerk, regarding new school to be erected.

Praha, N. D. The erection of a new school has been decided upon.

Lorain, O. An eight-room school.

Deerfield, O. Write Geo. R. Whitehurst regarding the erection of a new school.

Oil City, Pa. A new \$35,000 high school. To be 102 x 122 feet and three stories. C. W. Terry, architect.

Priceburg, Pa. An addition to school is being made.

Osceola, Wis. Work on new school has commenced.

Sheboygan, Wis. A new ten-room school house.

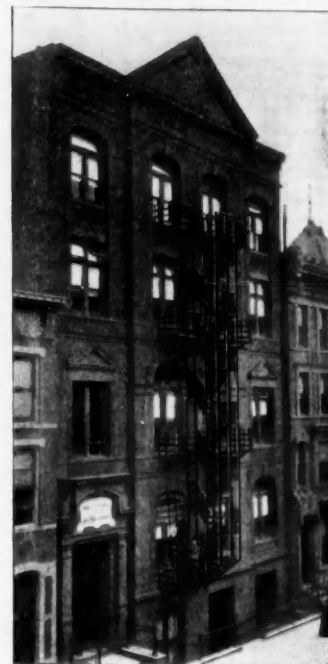
South Milwaukee, Wis. Contract to erect a new \$6,000 school awarded.

Milwaukee, Wis. Superintendent of schools has asked the city for new school building and additions amounting to over \$500,000, all to be constructed next year.

Chicago. The unique sight of several hundred children sliding from the top floor of a school to the ground on a new fire escape was greatly enjoyed by many interested spectators at the close of the afternoon session yesterday. The occasion was the official test of the Kirker-Bender fire escape, made by the Dow Wire Works Co., Louisville, Ky., which has been submitted to the board of education for its approval. The fire escape is cylindrical in form, six feet in diameter, with a three-inch stand pipe in the center. A perfectly smooth chute or slide twists about this stand pipe from the upper story to the ground, much after the style of a corkscrew. The entrance to the escape is through windows over iron runways at the different floors. On entering the doorway the person sits down and is swiftly but gently lowered to the street. Many of the children were so delighted with the novel sensation that they slipped by the janitor, and, going back to the top floor, came down again.

## NATIONAL IRON CO.

GENERAL OFFICES, 39 Erie St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
CHICAGO OFFICES, 112 Dearborn St.  
Manufacturers **THE NATIONAL FIRE ESCAPE**  
AND ALL KINDS OF IRON WORK.



TIME TRIED

FIRE TESTED

CATALOGUE AND PLANS FREE.

### ALWAYS READY FOR USE.

THE NATIONAL surpasses all others for the following reasons:—The Escape is placed between windows, thereby preventing those descending from being cut off by fire. It is a continuous staircase, easy of descent by either old or young, and is especially adapted for the use of the crippled and infirm. The stair guard provided renders it impossible for any one to be pushed off or injured even in a panic while descending. The NATIONAL has great strength and is practically indestructible, besides being light and airy in construction.

A few schools who use and recommend our escapes: Detroit, Toledo, Saginaw, Bay City, New York, Oak Park, Buffalo, Glens Falls, Brooklyn, and many others.

## American Warming and Ventilating Company,

435 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO.

HEATING AND  
VENTILATING  
ENGINEERS.

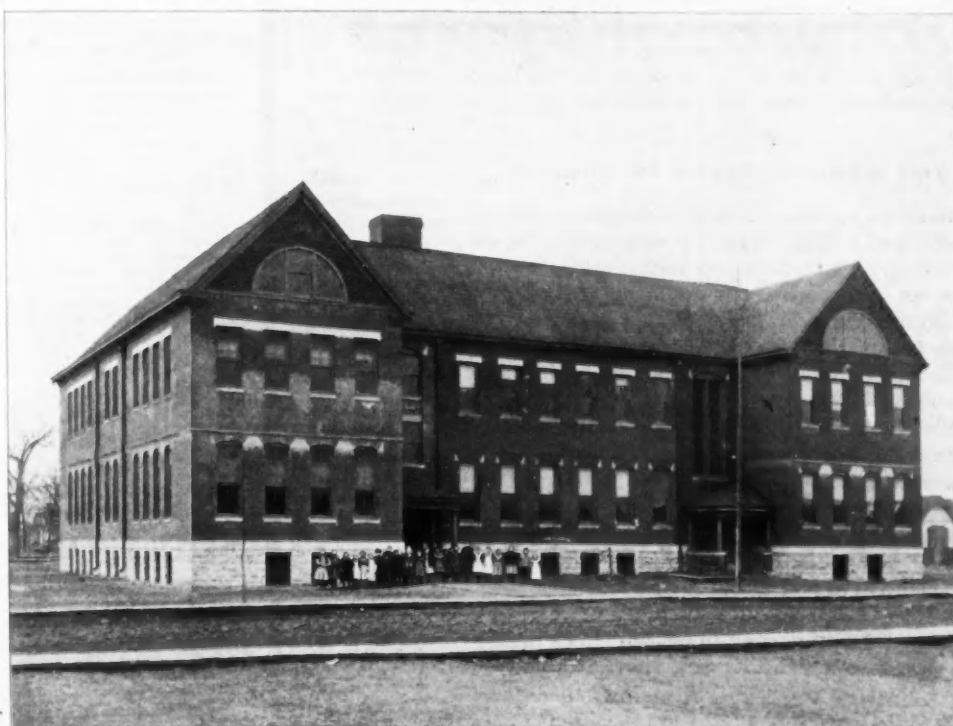
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APPARATUS.

DRY AND  
FLUSHING  
CLOSET.

Schools and other  
Public Buildings a  
Specialty.

When we are furnished with sketches of buildings, we will prepare and submit plans, showing our system, with estimates, without charge.

Send for catalogues or for circulars, or write for information.



W. W. Rose, Architect, Kansas City, Mo.

MORSE SCHOOL, KANSAS CITY, MO.

## LEWIS & KITCHEN,

Cor. 9th and Broadway,  
KANSAS CITY, MO.

EDWARD C. LEWIS,  
JOHN H. KITCHEN,

....Proprietors.

We are equipping this building with our heating and ventilating system.

## THE MILLER LATEST IMPROVED FIRE EXTINGUISHER



Simple to Operate by Turning Valve top of Machine.  
Two Years Tested before Offered For Sale.

Our Machines in a School Building insure against Loss of Life and Property.

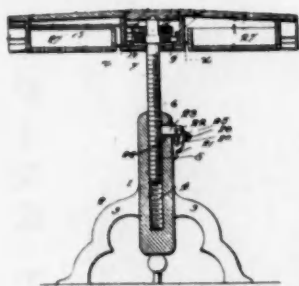
For full particulars, address

**MILLER CHEMICAL ENGINE CO.,**  
93 E. Indiana St., Chicago, Ill.

# Recent Patents.

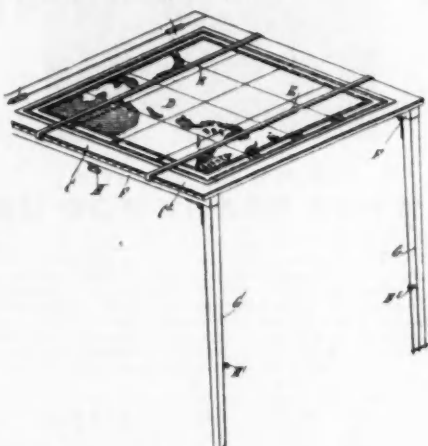
## SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT.

**STUDY TABLE.** John K. Whippo, Sherrett, Pa., assignor of one-half to John H. Frederick, West Monterey, Pa.



In a table, the combination with a standard having a screw-threaded socket therein, of a shaft fitting and moving therein, a table-top upon the upper end of said shaft, a notched disk on said shaft, an inwardly spring-pressed arm on the top adapted to fit within the notches in said disk, and means for throwing said spring-arm into and out of engagement with the disk.

**CHART-TABLE.** Silas N. Greenleaf, Seattle, and Henry Barker, Hoquiam, Wash.



A chart-table, comprising a top consisting of slats arranged close together, a flexible material holding the slats together, the said flexible material being secured to the upper surface of the slats so that a smooth unbroken top surface is provided when the table is in use, a support to which one edge of the top is hinged, supporting-arms hinged to the support, flexible straps for holding a chart on the table-top, and a strap for holding the top in its rolled position, substantially as specified.

## THE MAGIC LANTERN IN SCHOOLS.

Teachers and school boards contemplating the purchase of a magic lantern or stereopticon for use in schools, need be dismayed neither at the possible price nor at any prospective difficulty in operating it. By sending to Messrs. J. B. Colt & Co., of New York, for their illustrated catalogue, full information on both these points may be obtained. Their assortment of these instruments is large and of the highest quality, ranging from single lanterns to the magnificent triple stereopticon, the latter being capable of the finest effects in the production of pictures by light projection. The less expensive lanterns, however, answer the teacher's purpose quite as well, or better. The desirableness of the magic lantern as a means of instruction and entertainment in a school is beyond question. The firm above named are prepared to furnish slides in endless variety adapted to every study or topic of interest, and we may gently hint that the school which lacks this adjunct to its work is deplorably behind the times.

**DEAFNESS & Head Noises CURED**  
by Peck's Pat. IMPROVED  
CUSHION EAR DRUMS.  
THE ONLY unseen, self-adjusting, comfortable  
device that perfectly restores good hearing. All  
conversation heard distinctly. Sold only by  
F. HISCOK, 853 Broadway, cor. 14th St., New York.  
WHOLESALE ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF PROOFS, FREE.



## BUSINESS EDUCATION.

A recent trip taken by members of the Cleveland school council has resulted in some new ideas on the subject of a course of study in the higher grades and the high school. Every member now believes that the high school studies should be more practical in order that the greatest good to the greatest number may result.

"What we want," said President Kendall, "is a department for the benefit of those who from any cause are not able to spend four years in the high schools, and yet who desire such scholastic training as will best and most immediately prepare them for business pursuits.

"It would be the aim to give a thorough business education, so that the graduate may not only be able to keep books, but may have facility in correspondence and a general knowledge of business laws and customs and laws of trade, with the restrictions thereof. Special stress should be placed upon the necessity of good business habits, such as accuracy, neatness, promptness, courtesy, dispatch, energy, and all those general habits, natural and acquired, which are the essentials of a successful business man."

"The best results are achieved in night schools by adhering to substantial studies," said Superintendent Andrews, of Chicago. "That is, the educational necessities. The pupils who attend night school

are, as a rule, unable to get an education any other way, and should be taught that which will be of the most practical good to them. Of late years, bookkeeping, stenography, and typewriting have been successfully taught. The result is the pupils are given an education and training which fits them for business life. I am in favor of increasing the number of night schools as far as the means at our command will permit and to extend the study of shorthand, typewriting, and bookkeeping." The indications are that at least thirty-five evening schools will be opened this year with accommodations for 20,000 pupils.

# The Wing Piano

STYLE 29. CONCERT GRAND UPRIGHT.

No other Piano made equals this in style and design of case.



We aim to make the best piano possible and to sell it at the lowest price possible. If you wish to buy a fine piano at a low price, write us.

## DESCRIPTION OF STYLE 29.

7½ octaves.  
Double lever, grand repeating action.  
Grand scale, overstrung bass; three strings to each note in middle and treble registers.

The scale is the same as in grand pianos, with the largest size of sound board and strings of greatest length.

**Tone.**—The one great object for which a piano is made is its tone. The Wing Piano possesses magnificent tone-qualities, durability, sweetness, richness, power, singing quality and evenness.

**Action.**—The Wing action is patterned after the perfected double lever grand repeating action, to secure the greatest strength and power and greatest repeating qualities. Every note acts instantaneously and recovers promptly, ready for the repeat, so that after a note is

thus giving the greatest volume and power of tone.

**Case.**—Double veneered inside and outside.

Choice of superior Circassian walnut, rich figured mahogany, genuine quartered oak and ebonized.

**Keys.**—Of best ivory and ebony.

## SPECIAL INFORMATION.

played the same note may be sounded again immediately without taking the finger from key.

**Improvements.**—Wing Pianos have the following improvements, viz.: "Built up" wrest plank construction. "Dovetail" top and bottom frame case construction. Full metal plate, with metal depression bar and metal supports for key bed. Improved noiseless direct motion pedal action. Improved practice attachment. Full length duet music desk. Carved panels. Instrumental attachment.

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imitates perfectly the tones of the Mandolin, Guitar, Harp, Zither and Banjo. Music written for these instruments, with and without piano accompaniment, can be played just as perfectly by a single player on the piano as though rendered by a parlor orchestra.

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### SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

## Directory

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West Des Moines, Ia. Night schools have been opened. No tuition is charged, and those persons who are not able to buy their own books are assisted.

Kansas City, Mo. The board of education has decided to open a number of free night schools with the beginning of the school session next fall.

Philadelphia, Pa. The president of the board of education, Samuel B. Huey, in the annual report, makes the suggestion that night schools should be kept open from September to May and that teachers be chosen with the same care as to efficiency that is exercised in selecting teachers for day schools.

New York, City. At the Harlem evening high school, a class in political science has been formed. The class will study, besides the political history of the United States, civil government, economics, the charter for Greater New York, history of political

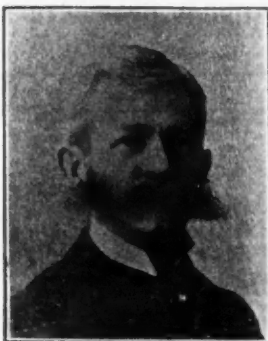
parties, national and local party issues and the Constitution.

New York, City. The following subjects are taught in the senior female evening school: plain sewing, dressmaking, including cutting and fitting; practical cooking, including chemistry of food and its hygienic effects; stenography, bookkeeping, single and double entry; spelling, reading, including history and English classics; penmanship, grammar, composition, business forms and letter writing, civics, physical culture, music.

Peoria, Ill. The board of education has opened four night schools.

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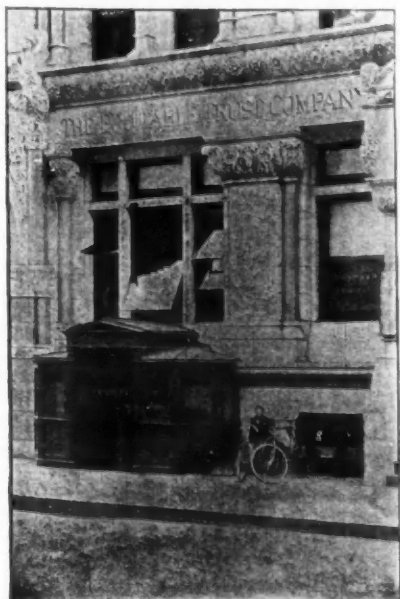
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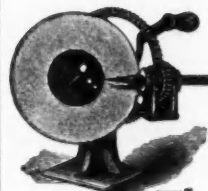
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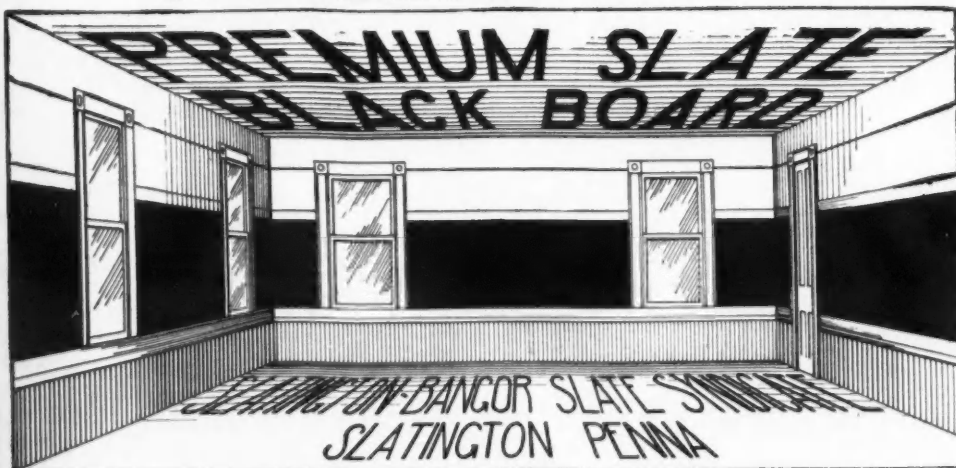
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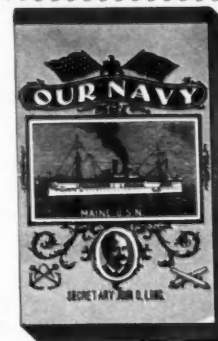
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